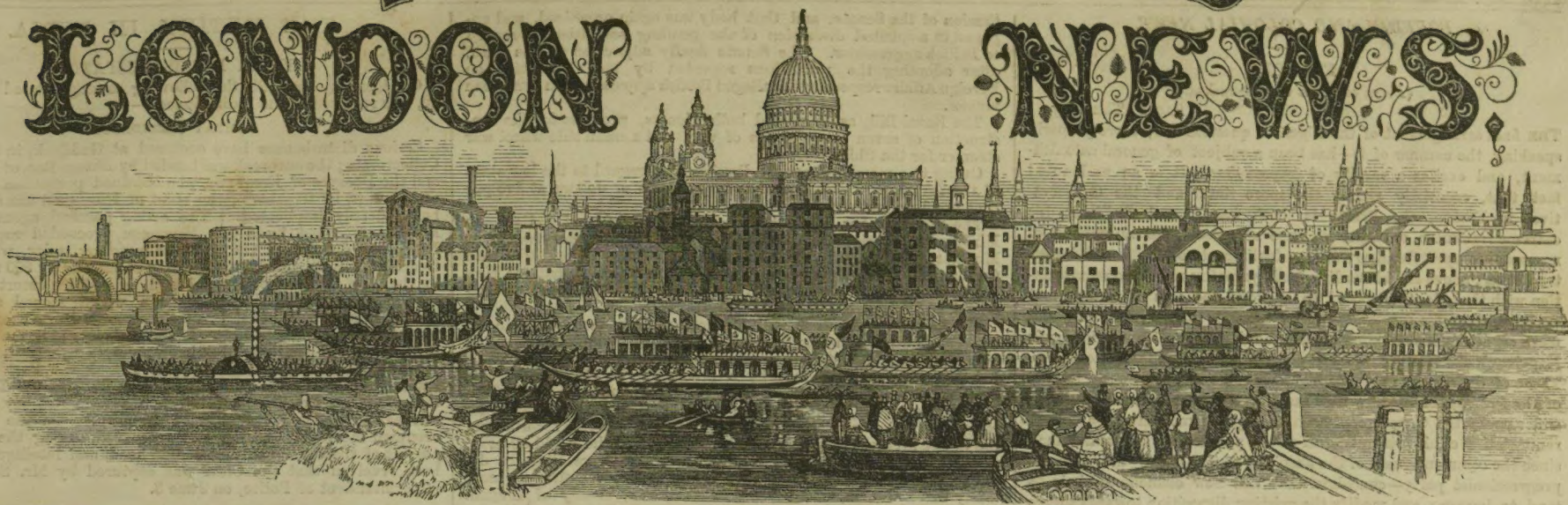


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1858.]

TWENTY-FOUR PAGES AND
COLOURED SUPPLEMENT } FIVEPENCE



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM—THE GUNMAKERS' ARCH, AT COSTA GREEN.—SEE PAGE 15.



FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE final arrangement of the Algerian question—or, more properly speaking, the manner of it—has been a subject of general astonishment, and excites a variety of impressions. It is an undoubted fact that, especially among the more timid and the Conservatives in France, the Prince is both feared and disliked: his extreme frankness, or rather violence of speech; his abruptness of manner, his *esprit frondeur*, always inclining to opposition and contradiction; above all, his undisguised sympathy and personal association with those least disposed to approve the acts of the present dynasty, make his entrance into the councils of the Emperor, and more especially his standing at the head of the Council in Louis Napoleon's absence, a subject of no small uncertainty and uneasiness. Those of the opposite side, particularly some of the personal friends of the Prince, consider his thus associating himself with the policy and acts of the Government as a retrograde movement—a sort of renunciation of his principles and of the position he has maintained since the commencement of the Empire; while a third—the moderate progressionist party—considers that this new element is likely to tend to improve and modify the existing disposition towards severe repression. It is said that the influence of M. de Persigny has been strongly exercised to bring about the present arrangement of affairs.

It appears that the opinion of M. de Persigny is so decidedly opposed to the adoption of a civil administration in Algeria that there is little chance of his continuing his functions there, in which case he will be created Duc de Kabylie.

The Empress remains at St. Cloud during the absence of the Emperor at Plombières. On his return thence he will conduct her Majesty to Cherbourg; thence they will proceed to Brittany; after which he will leave the Empress and the Prince Imperial at Biarritz, and visit the camp at Châlons.

The illness of Fuad Pacha still prevents the continuation of the Conference, and it is more than ever impossible to say when these laborious deliberations are likely to come to an end.

M. Mayer and Pierson, the celebrated photographers, have been called to St. Cloud to take the portraits of the Empress and the Prince Imperial. Two photographs were made of the latter—one, seated on the knees of the Emperor, the other on a wooden horse. Both are said to be perfectly successful.

A number of marriages are taking place in Paris; among others that of Mlle. Odette Lafitte, daughter of the wealthy banker, M. Charles Lafitte, with a no less wealthy banker of Frankfurt, M. Erlanger. The fair Parisienne insisted that in the Corbeille should be placed a document, signed by her intended, according her a sojourn of three months of every year in Paris, with a sum sufficiently large to defray the expenses of such visits.

At the Hospital at Rouen died lately an actor named Darius, aged one hundred and three. Among his souvenirs is that of having played at Ferney before Voltaire.

Horace Vernet has just completed a picture representing the episode in the taking of the Malakoff when General McMahon, advised to abandon his position, rejects the counsel. The picture is said to be one of Vernet's happiest efforts.

The Emperor left St. Cloud on Tuesday morning for Plombières. The Emperor and Empress were on Sunday present at the inauguration of the monument erected by his Majesty to the memory of his mother, Queen Hortense, in the church of Rueil, which also contains the mausoleum of the Empress Josephine.

The *Moniteur* of Friday week published a decree, charging Prince Napoleon with the Ministry of Algeria and the Colonies. A Council was held on Friday last, at the residence of Prince Napoleon, at which his Highness presided. The whole of the questions relative to the organisation of the new Ministerial Department for Algeria and the Colonies were examined. The Minister of War, the Minister of Marine, General Daumas, Director of the Affairs of Algeria, and M. de Roujoux, Director of the Colonial Department under the Minister of Marine, attended the meeting.

The new mode of attaching horses to artillery, invented by the Emperor, having been tried with success in several military divisions, has been definitively adopted by the Minister of War.

M. Devienne was installed on Monday at the Palais de Justice as First President of the Imperial Court. An Imperial decree appoints Count de Morny President of the Corps Legislatif. MM. Schneider and Revel are appointed Vice-Presidents.

ITALY.

The *Piccolo Corriere d'Italia* states that the Austrians are preparing to fortify Placentia, to which ten detached forts are to be added.

The Piedmontese Senate, in its sitting of the 22nd ult., passed the bill for the loan of 40,000,000 francs (£1,600,000) by a majority of 41 votes to 12.

The *Cagliari* left Naples on the 23rd ult. for Genoa, and, by order of the King, provisions, coal, &c., were supplied to her. She arrived in the port of Genoa on the 23rd. Dr. Smith and Mr. Barbar, the British Consul at Naples, were on board, the latter having come for the purpose of consigning her to the Sardinian authorities, which he did immediately on his arrival. On the following day she was delivered up to the owners, amidst much demonstration of joyful triumph on the part of the relatives and friends of the crew. It is said the Piedmontese Government will persist in demanding an indemnity for the sufferings of the captain and the crew.

SPAIN.

The Government has drawn up new regulations respecting foreigners, which enact that when any foreigner may arrive in Spain without a passport he shall be detained until he can prove who he is and the object of his journey.

The inauguration by the Queen on the 29th ult. of the works for distributing water in Madrid took place with great success. Amongst the works is a jet 81 feet high. The expense of the works is estimated at 126,000,000 reals.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia, accompanied by her Majesty, left Berlin, on the evening of the 29th ult., for Tegernsee. Their Majesties travel in the strictest incognito as the Count and Countess of Zollern. Before quitting the capital the King signed a decree, prolonging for three months the power delegated to the Prince of Prussia. A solemn investiture of thirty-nine new Knights of the Order of Saint John of the Hospital of Jerusalem took place in the Palace at Berlin, on Thursday week, St. John's-day. The Prince of Prussia presided, and the ceremony was attended by the Princes Charles, Albert, George, and Adalbert of Prussia, and by Prince Augustus of Wurtemberg. Among the new Knights were M. von Bismark-Schoenhausen, Prussian Plenipotentiary in the German Diet, M. Von Westphalen, Minister of the Interior, and Baron Pronay, Chamberlain to the Emperor of Austria.

UNITED STATES.

The latest news from the United States is of an interesting character. The British Admiral, Sir Houston Stewart, had, in a despatch to Lord Napier, entirely disavowed the outrages said to have been committed by his subordinate officers on the coast of Cuba and in the Gulf of Mexico. Public feeling in America had in consequence become greatly allayed. Both Houses of Congress finally adjourned on the 14th instant; but the President forthwith called a special

Session of the Senate, and that body was again organised, and engaged in a spirited discussion of the pending resolutions in regard to British aggressions. The Senate finally adjourned on the 16th, after adopting the resolutions reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs respecting the alleged British aggressions on American vessels.

The Naval Bill, as it passed both Houses, provides for the construction of seven steam-sloops of war, and a small side-wheel war steamer for the China seas.

Owing to a message from the President in regard to the low state of the Treasury, a new loan of twenty million of dollars at five per cent had been authorised.

The President has nominated Joseph A. Wright, of Indiana, as Minister to Prussia, and Charles R. Buckalow, of Pennsylvania, as Minister to Ecuador. The appointment of the following named Consuls had been officially announced:—Robert D. Melville, of New York, at Sydney, New South Wales; John P. O'Sullivan, of California, at Singapore.

The news from Utah is still conflicting. On the 15th of April Governor Cumming wrote from Salt Lake City, giving an account of his reception and installation into office. On the frontier of Salt Lake Country he was met by a procession of dignitaries, who escorted him to his lodgings in the city. Brigham Young paid him a call of ceremony, and in due form the territorial seal and other insignia of office were surrendered up. The territorial records and the public archives were found safe, and, so far as he could observe, unimpaired. He had notified all persons who were illegally deprived of their liberty to communicate with him; and fifty-six men, thirty-three women, and seventy-one children, mostly of English origin, had done so. Governor Cumming represents the population as leaving for the South. Young, Kimball, and other elders have, he says, left their commodious homes and, taking their seventy wives and seven times seventy children, have joined the train of emigrants into the further wilderness. Thither the Governor was about to follow them, to induce them to return if possible. The despatches from Colonel Johnson, five days later, but brought by the same post, tell quite another story. They represent the Mormons as anything but peacefully inclined, as fortifying themselves at every point, as preparing to resist the Federal authority, and as having sent their wives and children beyond the point of danger. By the last advices the abandonment of Salt Lake City by the Mormons is confirmed, but they intended to rendezvous at Orovo City, and fortify it against the Government troops. General Johnston was expected to commence a forward movement. The Peace Commissioners had reached the camp.

The floods of the Western rivers were giving cause for great uneasiness, and the reports from Cairo, Illinois, were of the most alarming character. The water was still rising, and was running over the Ohio level in several places. Mr. Ashley, chief engineer of the Illinois, gives the opinion that one foot more rise will sweep Cairo entirely away. Mound city is under water. The depot grounds in the highest part of the town were covered to the depth of four or five inches. Passengers were conveyed a quarter of a mile from Mound city in boats to the railway. The Illinois Central Railway at Cairo was washed away on the south wing. Nearly all the houses were tumbling down, drifting away, or sinking. Scarcely a building in the city was expected to withstand the flood.

Very heavy rain storms have prevailed along the Atlantic coast, amounting in some cases to a perfect deluge. Great damage was sustained at Baltimore.

A terrible catastrophe happened on the Mississippi river on Sunday morning, the 13th of June. The steamboat *Pennsylvania*, of Pittsburg, while on her way from New Orleans to St. Louis, when at Ship Island, about seventy-five miles below Memphis, exploded her boilers, caught fire, and burned to the water's edge. Of three hundred and fifty people on board, it is believed at least one hundred perished, while of those saved a great number were injured. A telegram of the 15th July states that "a passenger estimates the number on board at 450, and thinks that 250 were lost."

The seventy-second birthday of General Scott was celebrated at New York, on the 14th ult., with military honours. It was the occasion of the presentation, on behalf of the ladies of New York, of a stand of colours to the Scott Life Guard. The Boston Light Infantry, escorted by a battalion of the National Guard, joined in the parade, and dined with the New York battalion at Astor House in the evening.

CHINA.

Our advices from Hong-Kong are to the 5th of May. The following is from the summary of the *China Mail* of that date:—

Affairs progress at Canton towards a thorough complication. The Hoppo has been arrested, and Pihkwei put under surveillance, because the former was attempting to leave the city privately, and the latter, having secretly sent off his seal and his servants to Fatsam, was about to follow them himself along with the judge; but, so far as we can learn, there is no truth in the very improbable rumour that Pihkwei has admitted that Hwang, the new Governor-General, has orders to retake Canton.

Large bodies of braves are being collected in the vicinity of Canton, and we have received information that attempts are being made to induce the Tartars, and the Kecha, or naturalised Tartars, in Canton, who together number about 20,000 fighting men, to be prepared to rise against the Allies.

Among other proclamations lately issued by General Straube, one is to the effect that all empty houses must be kept with the doors open, and in charge of some one, so that the police may prevent thieves secreting themselves; a second forbids Chinese walking in the streets after eight o'clock in the evening; a third intimates the arrest of all persons who may attempt to pass the city gates with weapons or gunpowder in their possession; and a fourth orders the pulling down of all houses which are close by the city walls. The commissioners have issued a proclamation, which was much needed, but it is not likely to be of very much effect, forbidding bribes being paid to the Chinese in their employ.

A certain mystery hangs over Canton and its neighbourhood. The powerlessness of Pihkwei since his appointment from Peking, the manner in which he has confined himself to mere acquiescence, the anxiety of the Chinese authorities to escape from the city, the delay of the Imperial Commissioner, the popular panic, and the tampering with the Tartars, all point to the suspicion that Lord Elgin's movements towards Peking may have induced the Government there either to decide on a sudden effort against foreigners, or to limit his offensive means by keeping Canton in such a state that no troops and no more gunboats can be withdrawn from it.

MADAME IDA PFEIFFER has just found a pillow in the hospital of Hamburg, where Dr. Tungal is treating her for chronic ague caught at Madagascar.

PRINCE ALFRED and his suite arrived at Valentia on Wednesday morning on board the *Black Eagle*.

The eldest son of Prince Radziwil, and who is grandson of the Princess Louisa of Prussia, has entered as auditor at the tribunal of Berlin.

THE GREAT FIRE AT DANTZIC.—The fire that broke out at Dantzig on the evening of the 19th ult. continued to rage the whole of the night, and was not subdued till eight o'clock the next morning. The fire brigade of Königsberg, which was apprised of the disaster by telegraph, arrived too late to render assistance. The conflagration has destroyed fifty-five houses. Five persons perished in the flames. The damage is estimated at 1,000,000 of thalers: the chief part of the loss is covered by insurance in the Gotha and Leipzig companies.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—A fearful gale has raged on the banks of Newfoundland, attended with immense loss of life and property to the French fishermen. Besides the loss of vessels, it is said 300 men perished during the storm.

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, so frequently referred to in connection with the affair of the *Regina Celi*, is situated on the coast of Guinea, on the banks of the river Mesurado, to the east of the cape of that name. It was founded by an American colonisation society, without any aid from the Federal Government of the United States. Its capital is called Monrovia, because Mr. Monroe, President of the United States, was one of the members of the society. The foundation of the Republic of Liberia took place in 1821. Within the last few years its territory has been greatly enlarged. It can only be inhabited by free men, and the men who engage themselves to go to work in foreign colonies can only do so under the surveillance of their Government.

IMITATION OF THE NATURAL PRODUCTION OF PEARLS.—At a soiree held recently at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Mr. Quikett exhibited some interesting specimens illustrating the manner in which pearls were produced naturally, and the manner in which the natural productions might be artificially imitated. He showed that the oyster-shell was first perforated from without by a boring worm, and when the inner layer is reached this layer is pushed inwards, covered with lustrous coating of the shell, and at length detached. The introduction of wires and other foreign bodies from without imitated the action of the borer, and the body became coated or plated with the pearly layer.

THE MUTINY IN INDIA.

INDIA HOUSE DESPATCH.

On Monday, June 28, the following message, dated Malta, June 26, was received at the India House:—

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

Serious disturbances have occurred at Gudduck, in the Dharwar Collectorate; the outbreak was headed by Bheem Rao, of Moonderger, and the Desayee of Hembgee, who obtained possession of the Fort of Fowl (i) by treachery; the chief of Nurgood was suspected of being deeply implicated. The acting political agent, Mr. C. T. Manson, attended by a few horsemen, proceeded rapidly to the Nurgood district, in the hope of restoring order, when he was treacherously attacked on the night of May 29 by 800 men, headed by the chief of Nurgood, and killed, with all his escort. It being greatly feared that the disaffection would spread all over the Southern Mahratta country, reinforcements have been ordered to proceed immediately to Belgaum and Kolapoor; in the meantime it is hoped that the outbreak has been promptly repressed. A Madras column, under Major Hughes, June 1, took the Fort of Copal by assault, and among the slain were Bheem Rao and the Desayee; on the same day Colonel Malcolm, with a light Bombay detachment, arrived at Nurgood, and stormed the town. On the next day he occupied the [fort?], which was evacuated during the night. A pursuit of the Chief was then commenced, and intelligence has just been received that the Chief was captured by Mr. Southern, the Superintendent of Police, on June 3.

NIZAM'S COUNTRY.

The Aurungabad districts are much disturbed by Arabs and Rohillas, who have plundered several towns; the Resident strongly urged that a European reinforcement be sent immediately by the Government of Bombay to Jaulnah. A field detachment, about 450 men of all arms, has been dispatched.

H. D. ANDERSON, Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, June 4, 1858.

Supplement to Mr. Secretary Edmonstone's message, dated Allahabad, May 26:—

ROHILCUND DIVISION.

The rebels near Shahjehanpore were attacked by Sir Colin Campbell on the 24th of May, and driven back to Mohundee, which place was taken by our force.

FUTTYGHUR.

On the 28th of May 5000 rebels, in two bodies, crossed the Kallee Nundee, and marched along the western boundary of the district, burning and destroying villages; on the evening of the 29th they were crossing the Ganges. The Rohilcund force of cavalry had gone out in pursuit of them. Two Princes of the Delhi family were arrested on the 28th of May by the Tassildar of Hussunpore.

CAWNPORE DISTRICT.

A party of about 1000 men, with four guns, supposed to be from Humeerpore, reached Azung, on the Grand Trunk road between Lullupore and Cawnpore, on the 29th of May. The road is fairly closed. Some thousand rebels, horse and foot, with eight guns, in three divisions, crossed from the Humeerpore side of the Jumna to the Shorapore Ghat, on the Ganges; the last division crossed on the 29th of May, they are proceeding to Oude. Middleton's columns arrived at Mohar, opposite the Shorapore Ghat, on the 30th. Brigadier Carthew, with a small force, had marched for the same point on the 29th of May. Brigadier Sir Edward Lugard defeated the rebels near Jugdespore on the 26th of May, killing a great number. Our force, by the latest accounts, was still in pursuit.

Calpee was entirely in our possession, both town and fort, on the evening of the 23rd of May. Large stores of guns, gunpowder, and other munitions were found in the fort. A flying column which was sent in pursuit of the rebels quickly came up with them, killing a great number, and capturing eight of their guns. One portion of the rebels succeeded in crossing the Jumna, but appear to have been attacked and dispersed by the Zemindars of Russulabad. Another and larger body escaped towards Gwalior by Jaloun, and were about twenty-four miles from Gwalior on the 29th of May. His Highness Scindia has dispatched two regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and eighteen guns to the Molar cantonment, for the purpose of opposing the rebels. He will command the force himself. A small force with twelve guns remain for the protection of Gwalior.

Scindia is anxious for the speedy advance of the British troops on his frontier. The column under Brigadier Smith recaptured Chundaree from the Boondelohs on the 25th of May. After effectually demolishing the works of this stronghold, the column will advance towards Esaghar.

Bombay Castle, June 4.

H. D. ANDERSON, Secretary to Government.

Malta, June 26.

VINCENT G. MONTANARO.

Just received per steamer *Taurus*.

[The detailed account brought from Calcutta by mail, which reached London on Tuesday night, is entirely superseded by the Bombay news given above.]

COLLECTING EXPEDITION TO THE MURRAY AND DARLING, AUSTRALIA.—(To the Editor, &c.)—Allow me to correct a few inaccuracies in Mr. Blandowski's report on the collecting expedition to the Murray and Darling, an extract of which, from the *Melbourne Argus*, appeared in No. 886 of your valuable Journal:—1. There are no fresh water sponges in the Murray River, the substance so designated is nothing else but some water plant, which, when dry, will rub to dust between one's fingers. The only place where it was met with was at Reedy Lake, the shores of which were covered by the above-mentioned plant, which was anything but a *sweet-water sponge*. With regard to the carpet snake, or Australian boa, I beg to state that this reptile, like its American prototype, is furnished with a pair of slightly developed legs, near the abdomen, but that it is my opinion these were never supplied by nature for assisting the snake in climbing trees. An extract from my diary will bear me out in this:—"A gum-tree with quite a smooth surface having been selected, the carpet snake was deposited at the bottom of the trunk, which, through the exertions of her immense muscular power, she succeeded in climbing upwards of twenty feet, when the outrunning branches soon enabled her to gain a safe asylum among the foliage." Everybody who witnessed this feat was of the opinion that muscular power alone enabled the snake to climb the tree. The carpet snake is not a poisonous reptile, so there is no danger to the observer, otherwise it would be a matter of impossibility to keep near enough to watch her movements in safety. Preying upon small birds, this snake will keep alive without other food or water for a great length of time; and I shall only mention one fact—where a specimen had been kept for about four months at the camp without food, it was then dispatched to Melbourne, where it arrived in safety. Before I conclude I beg to state that I have been attached to this collecting party for a period of fourteen months, and that I had the charge of it from August to December, 1857.—GERARD KREFFT.

The following is the expense of refitting the undermentioned ships for recommission in 1858, as shown by a return from the Admiralty just issued:—viz., the *Duke of Wellington*, £17,650; the *Arrogant*, £19,913; the *Cressy*, £7313; the *Nile*, £13,772; the *Burgalus*, £10,828; and the *Es-mouth*, £11,912.

The members of the medical staff of the Royal Free Hospital entertained Dr. Marsden, the founder of the institution, at dinner, at the Star and Garter, Richmond, on Friday week, to celebrate the completion of the thirtieth year of its existence. The number of patients relieved at this hospital last week was 2285, of which 868 were new cases.

Last week a magnificent *épergne* was presented to Miss Toogood, daughter of the Rector of St. Andrew, Holborn, by the inhabitants of that parish, on the marriage of the young lady to the Rev. Mr. Snowden, "with sincere wishes for her welfare and happiness, and as a tribute of grateful respect to her father."

The annual speeches of the Rugby scholars came off this year on the 22nd ult., and the recitations of the prize essays and poems took place, as usual, in the great school-room. The new head master, Dr. Temple, presided, and the Earl of Denbigh, with others of the trustees, and a large assemblage of the neighbouring gentry and friends of the school, attended the meeting.

There is now living in the Island of Rousay (says *John o' Groat's Journal*) a man of the name of George Reid, a native of Westray, whose age amounts to 107 years. He has passed 67 years in Westray, and 40 years in this island, is possessed of all the faculties of mind and body, and readily converses on any subject connected with his past life.

TRANSATLANTIC SKETCHES.

SAVANNAH AND THE SEA ISLANDS.

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

FROM Charleston to Savannah by sea is a distance of one hundred miles; by land—there being no railway communication, except by traversing two sides of a triangle—the distance is about two hundred. A direct coast railway is in course of construction; but at present most travellers, except those who are very bad sailors, prefer the sea passage. As I had already gone over a considerable portion of the land route, through the pine forests of Georgia and South Carolina—

Where, northward as you go,
The pines for ever grow;
Where, southward if you bend,
Are pine-trees without end;
Where, if you travel west,
Earth loves the pine-tree best;
Where, eastward if you gaze,
Through long, unvaried ways,
Behind you and before,
Are pine-trees evermore;—

I preferred the sea, as offering more comfort, as well as more novelty, than the land route. No traveller in America, unless he be very much pressed for time, or have special reasons for the preference, will travel by the miserable railroad if he can get into a steamer. The steamers are as invariably good as the rail is invariably bad. Taking my passage in the tidy little boat, the *St. Mary's*, bound for the St. John's River in Florida, and touching at Savannah, I found myself in comfortable quarters. The crew consisted entirely of negro slaves; the only white men on board, the passengers excepted, being the captain and the clerk. There are two routes to Savannah by sea—one the outer, and one the inner, route—and the *St. Mary's*, being more of a river than a sea boat, only ventures on the outer passage when the weather is calm. This being the case on the day that I trusted myself on board of her, we made a short and pleasant passage, leaving the harbour of Charleston at nine in the morning, and arriving at Savannah before seven in the evening. It was not until we arrived at the mouth of the Savannah River, and began to steam up for eighteen miles to the city, that the scenery offered any attractions. On each side was a low, flat, fertile country, with reeds twenty feet high—the summer haunts of the alligators—growing upon the bank, and the land studded with palmetto-trees, rice plantations, and negro villages. As the night darkened the blaze of a burning forest lit up the whole of the landward horizon, and gave lurid evidence that man was at work, and displacing the wilderness to make room for rice and cotton. The flocks of wild-fowl upon the Savannah positively darkened the air, and, when the birds descended to feed or rest, it seemed as if black clouds, moved by their own volition, had taken refuge among the reeds and canes. The Savannah River divides the States of Georgia and South Carolina for a portion of its length. It is navigable for sea steamers only as far as the city of Savannah, and for steamers of a smaller draught as far as Augusta, the second city of Georgia, 230 miles inland.

Savannah was founded, in 1732, by the celebrated General Oglethorpe, and is the chief city of Georgia, though not the capital, that honour being conferred, as is usual in the States, upon a more central place of very inferior importance. Milledgeville, the political capital, contains a population of about 3000 persons, while Savannah, the commercial capital, has a population of upwards of 30,000, of whom about one-half are slaves. Of all the cities in America none impresses itself more vividly upon the imagination and the memory than this little green bowery city of the South. It stands upon a terrace about forty feet higher than the river, and presents the appearance of an agglomeration of rural hamlets and small towns. If four-and-twenty villages had resolved to hold a meeting, and had assembled at this place, each with its pump, its country church, its common, and its avenue of trees, the result would have been a fac-simile of Savannah. Twenty-four open spaces, as large as, or larger than, Russell-square, with a pump in the middle, a church or a bank at one side, and neat wooden and stone houses around, the open spaces being laid out into walks and drives, and thickly planted with trees, among which the flowering china-tree or pride of India, the celandine, and the evergreen oak, are the most prominent;—such are the component parts and general aspect of Savannah. The soil is so loose and sandy that a good road is a luxury to be read of and imagined by the people, but not to be enjoyed, for want of stone and every other material of sufficient hardness. There is, it is true, about a mile and a half of shell road leading towards the lovely estate of Bonaventura—of which more hereafter—on which a carriage can roll with a moderate amount of comfort. This road gives so much satisfaction that the people are determined to extend it, and to imitate it in other directions, by such means as fortune and circumstances have placed within their control. Like all Americans, whether of the North or the South, the inhabitants of Savannah, rich or poor, free or slave, consume immense quantities of oysters. For breakfast, for dinner, and for supper, oysters, in one form or another, are sure to be supplied to all above the poorest classes of the population; and here there are few who can be called as absolutely poor as their compatriots in Europe. The result is, according to the calculation of a notable inhabitant, that Savannah consumes in a year oysters enough to leave shell adequate for the construction of one mile of road. But at present the roads are no exception to the general badness of American thoroughfares. They are dusty and rutty in the fine weather, muddy and rutty when it rains.

The view from the Custom House and Exchange, and from the street occupied by the stores, offices, and warehouses of the merchants, and which skirt the river for a mile, extends to the distant horizon over a low, flat country, covered for the most part with rice plantations and marshy ground. A gentleman of this city who had filled a diplomatic appointment in Turkey and Egypt, and whose courtesies at Savannah I gratefully remember, declared that he often thought he was looking at Egypt when he looked at this portion of Georgia. There were the same climate, the same atmosphere, the same soil, the same cultivation, and a river offering the same characteristics as the Nile. But of all the scenery in and about Savannah the Cemetery of Bonaventura is the most remarkable. There is nothing like it in America, or perhaps in the world. Its melancholy loveliness, once seen, can never be forgotten. Dull indeed must be the imagination and cold the fancy of any one who could wander through its weird and fairy avenues without being deeply impressed with its solemnity and appropriateness for the last resting-place of the dead. One melancholy enthusiast, a clergyman, weary of his life, disgusted with the world, with a brain weakened by long brooding over a disappointed affection, happened in an evil moment to stray into this place. He had often meditated suicide, and the insane desire took possession of his mind with more than its usual intensity as he lingered in this solemn and haunted spot. For days and nights he wandered about it and through it, and at last determined, in his melancholy frenzy, that to die for the satisfaction of being buried in

that place would be the supremest happiness the world could offer. He wrote his last sad wishes upon a piece of paper, left it upon a tomb, and leaped into the Savannah River. His body was discovered some days afterwards; but—alas! for the vanity of human wishes!—his dying request was not complied with; and it was decided by the authorities that he should be buried in the city of Savannah. So he died, as he had lived, in vain!

And why is the Cemetery of Bonaventura so eminently beautiful? Let me try to describe it. The place was formerly the country seat of an early settler, named Tatnall, one of the founders of the colony of Georgia. This gentleman, though he came to a forest land where trees were considered a nuisance, admired the park-like beauty around the great country mansions of the nobility and gentry in his native England, and, while every one else in the colony was cutting down trees, made himself busy in planting them. Having built himself a house on the estate of Bonaventura, he planted an avenue or carriage-drive leading up to its porch, and the tree he chose for the purpose was the evergreen oak; next to the cypress and the magnolia, the noblest tree in the Southern States of America. In due time, long after the good man's death, the trees attained a commanding height; and from their boughs there hung down the long feathery festoons of the tillandsia, or Spanish moss, that lends such melancholy beauty to all the Southern landscape. In the shadow of the wild wood around this place the Tatnalls are buried; but the mansion-house, which was of wood—as nearly all the rural dwellings are in Georgia and the Carolinas—having taken fire one Christmas evening, when a large party were assembled, and being utterly destroyed, with the sole exception of the chimneys and a little brickwork, the then owner took a dislike to the place, and never rebuilt the dwelling. The estate was ultimately sold, and now belongs to Mr. Wiltberger, the proprietor of the Pulaski House at Savannah, who, finding the tombstones of the Tatnalls and others in the ground, had a portion set aside for the purposes of a public cemetery. Never was a place so beautifully adapted by nature for this object. The mournful avenue of live oak, and the equally mournful glades that pierce on every side into the profuse and tangled wilderness, are all hung with the funeral drapery of the tillandsia. To those who have never seen this peculiar vegetation it may be difficult to convey an adequate idea of its sadness and loveliness. It looks as if the very trees, instinct with life, had veiled themselves like mourners at a grave; or as if the fogs and vapours from the marshes had been solidified by some stroke of electricity, and hung from the trees in palpable wreaths, swinging and swaying to every motion of the winds. Not unlike the effect produced by the tattered banners hung from the roofs of Gothic cathedrals as trophies of war in the olden time, or to mark the last resting-places of knights and nobles, is the effect of these long streamers pendent from the overarching boughs of the forest. Many of them are so long as to trail upon the ground from a height of twenty or thirty feet, and many of the same length, drooping from the topmost branches of oak and cypress, dangle in mid air. What adds to the awe inspired by the remarkable beauty of this parasitic plant is the alleged fact that wherever it flourishes the yellow fever is from time to time a visitant. It grows plentifully on the shores of the Lower Mississippi from Cairo to New Orleans, and throughout all Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, and South Carolina. In North Carolina it is not so common, and it disappears altogether in Virginia. In New Orleans it has been converted into an article of commerce, and, being dried and peeled, it is used instead of horsehair—which in this condition it much resembles—for stuffing mattresses and cushions for chairs and sofas.

As I had determined to return to Charleston by sea, I gladly awaited at Savannah the return of the *St. Mary's* from Florida. It was not until thirty hours after her appointed time that the little steamer, with her white captain and her black crew, reappeared in the River. She had met with strong head winds at sea, and the bad weather still continuing, the captain determined to try the inner instead of the outer passage. This arrangement was in every way to my taste, as it would afford me the opportunity of sailing through the countless and picturesque mazes of the Sea Islands. These islands extend from Charleston downwards to Savannah, and as far south as the great peninsula of Florida; and are famous for the production of the fine staple so well known and esteemed in all the cotton markets of the world—from New Orleans, Mobile, and Charleston, to Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow—as the "Sea Island cotton." In the summer this region is not habitable by the whites; but in the early spring there is neither fog nor fever, and the climate is delicious. Though the storm raged in the outer sea, the weather was calm, sunny, and beautiful as the *St. Mary's* threaded her way for a hundred and fifty miles through the narrow channels amid these low and fertile islands—some as large as the Isle of Wight or the Isle of Man, others as small as the islets of Venice. At times the water-way was like that of a noble river, broad as the Mississippi, but without its currents; and at others not wider than the Regent's Canal, or the New River at Islington. So narrow was it at times that we could have jumped ashore from either side of the deck; but the feat, though possible, and indeed easy, was not inviting; for, had any one been frolicsome enough to do so, he would have found himself up to the middle, or perchance to the neck, in soft bog and swamp. We had often to twist and turn in places where it seemed quite impossible that a steam-boat could pass, and the negroes had continually to push us out of difficulties by means of sturdy poles ten or twelve feet long—an exercise in which some of the passengers seemed delighted to take part. The tall rushes and reeds grew up to the height of the deck; and, had it been midsummer, we might have disturbed many an alligator as we wound our way, north and south, east and west, far into the bowels of the land, and then out again towards the sea, in this intricate navigation. Twenty times at least the *St. Mary's* seemed fast aground, and as often did stalwart negroes launch the ship's boat and row ashore, to affix a towrope to a stake left amid the long vegetation in previous voyages, to enable us to be manœuvred off again. The whole voyage was one constant succession of novelties of scene and adventure. From the deck we could look over a large expanse of country, studded with cotton-fields, with the white mansions of the planters, with negro villages, and with here and there a stretch of pasture land, in which the cattle were feeding. Amid the swamp the palmetto, sometimes singly, sometimes in clusters, raised its graceful branches; while on the higher grounds, and sometimes on the bank of the channel, were clumps of pines and evergreen oaks, all hung with the melancholy drapery of the tillandsia. At one turn we came suddenly upon a negro village, and several little "darkies," from the ages of three to ten, some entirely and others partially naked, who were upon a dunghill, set up a shout of delight at our arrival, which speedily brought forth the sable elders of the place, as well as the dogs, to take a look at us; the adults grinning and showing their white teeth, the dogs and the children vying with each other who should make the most noise in our honour. Many of the planters' houses which we passed were large and commodious, and

surrounded by groves of magnificent oak, cedar, and magnolia, all evergreens, giving the place an air of beauty through the winter the only attractions of an English midsummer.

There is throughout all this country a very considerable population engaged in the cultivation of its valuable staple—the Sea Island cotton; and the villages as well as country mansions were numerous as we passed. Here, for four or five months in the year, the planter lives like a patriarch of the golden time, or like a petty-despotic monarch, surrounded by his obedient subjects, with a white "ot-somos," or overseer, for his prime minister, who on his part is condemned to endure the climate the whole year, that the slaves may be kept in order, while the master himself hurries away with his family to the far North—to New York or to Saratoga, and very often to London and Paris—to spend the abundant revenues of his cotton crop. We passed one considerable town or city, that of Beaufort, the capital of the Sea Islands, and pleasantly as well as imposingly situated; and then, steaming through the broad channel of the Whapeo, reached Charleston, after a long but by no means disagreeable passage of forty-eight hours.

OUT-DOOR AMUSEMENTS.

JULY.

WITH the thermometer at 84 in the shade, we own that our idea of out-door amusements would be to extend ourselves at length on the velvet moss under a stately tree, by the side of a murmuring river with a book as our companion, and a refrigerator full of moselle-cup close at hand. We could even go through the fatigue of enjoying a mild harrumrah, and a glass of bitter ale and soda-water, under a hedge, while a game of cricket was going on, pitying with all our hearts those encased in flannel suits, wadded leg-guards and wicket-keeping gauntlets; nay, perhaps we might exert ourselves sufficiently to sit on the deck of a well-appointed yacht, under a canvas awning, with the steward in constant attendance with "sherry cobbler," "Badminton," and cider-cup. As for undertaking the toil of holding a rod, handling a bat, or steering a vessel, the very thought throws us into a profuse transpiration; and yet there are many manly sons of Old England who still delight in fishing, cricketing, and yachting. The present month is peculiarly prolific in such amusements; and to them we may add racing, the Goodwood Meeting taking place towards the end of the month.

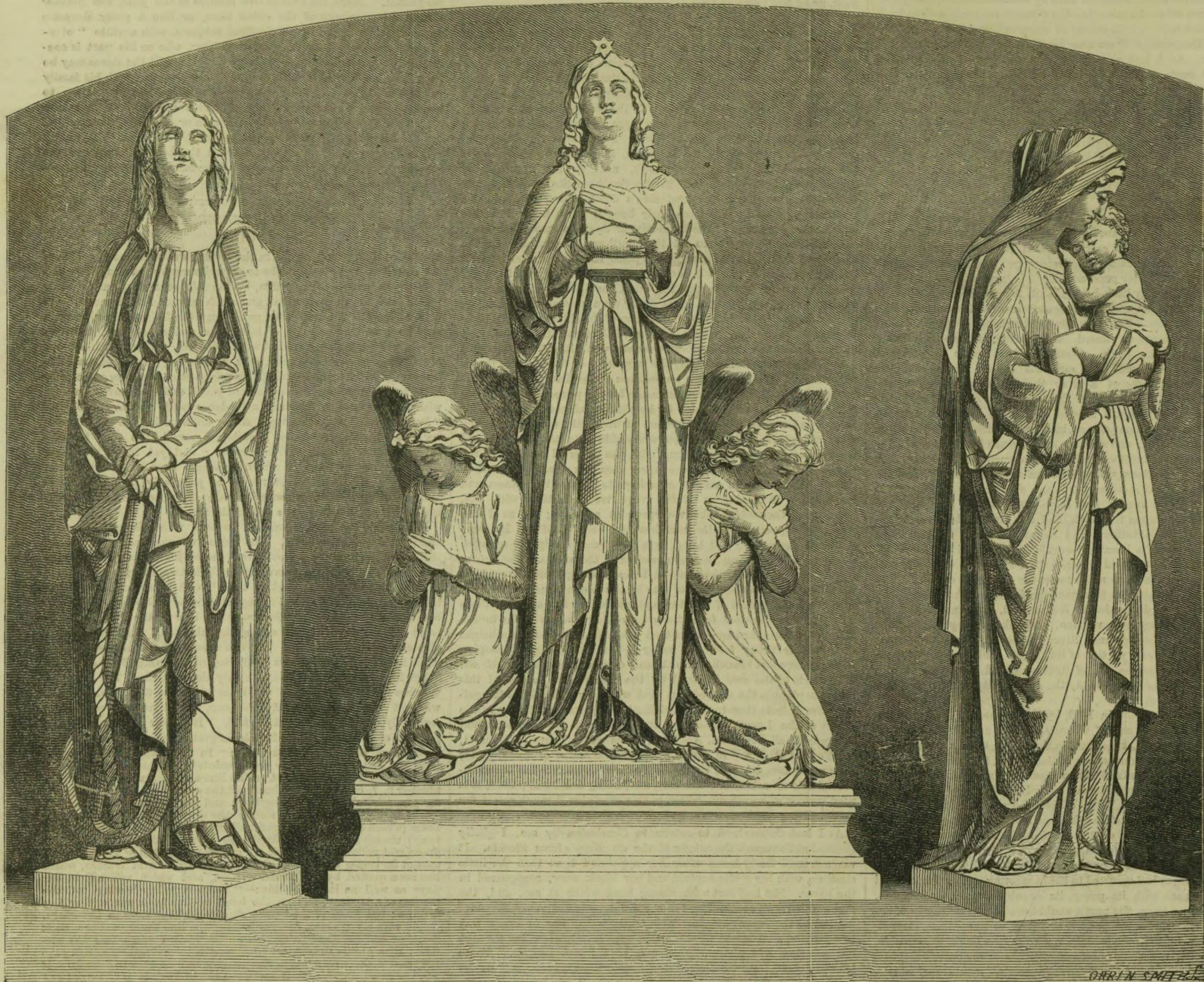
In July the angler, to command success, must rise with the sun, and remain out until it sets. The white fish have now fully regained their strength and plumpness, except those which spawned late. Carp and tench which did not spawn during the last month may be expected to have done so the first week of this. Trolling for pike is yet uncertain, and cannot be pursued to any advantage without a favourable breeze and a hidden sun. Gudgeons are now on the feed, and the trout will become a "triton among the minnows," having somewhat glutted itself with the fly. In this month the unfair practice of night fishing with a lobworm on the top of the water for large trout is but too common, and proves highly destructive. The grayling, who has begun to rise at all the trout and dace flies with avidity, will yet take the gentle at midwater, and sometimes prefers it, especially if the water be at all foul. It is now also that by the practice of sinking and drawing the largest grayling may be taken in some rivers, as those of Hampshire. In adopting this practice, a stout rod and a strong line are absolutely necessary. No float is used, but as much lead is put on the line as will just sink it with a number 6, 7, or 8 hook. Almost all the coleoptera, or beetle tribe, are greedily taken by the grayling; and the grasshopper is a very favourite bait with them. Before the grasshopper is put on the hook (which should be entered under the head and lodged in the body) the lead and shank should be covered with light green, or green and yellow, silk mixed. In dipping for grayling the fisherman cannot do better than follow the advice of old Isaac Walton, which has been quoted by a hundred writers, and which will kill in our days as well as it did in his:—"Make a pair of wings of the feather of a landrail, and on the bend of the hook put one or two caddies; the head of the caddie should be kept close to the wings. Angle with a rod about five yards long, the line three, and the hook No. 2 or 3. Let the bait float down the stream just below the surface; then gently draw it up again a little irregularly by shaking the rod, and if there be a fish in the place it will be sure to take it. If you use two caddies with the wings, put the hook in at the head and out at the neck of the first, and quite through the other from head to tail. Two brandlings or small red worms may be fished with in the same way."

Roach will also, even in midday, if the sun be not in full vigour, take a gentle on a hook previously dressed with a hackle halfway down it, or the same with a pair of light-coloured wings. Chub may be caught this month with the grasshopper all day, but early and late anglings are those principally to be depended upon for the taking of trout. If, however, the day is very warm and gloomy, with occasional moisture, not produced by electric action in the air, the opportunity must be embraced, as bottom-fishing with a lively worm will fill the panner. With regard to fly-fishing, it will be found in many rivers that the trout are less inclined to rise than they were in the preceding months; they will, however, if a favourable breeze lends its aid, take the bright-coloured duns as the red spinners. Towards the close of the day, and particularly after a very hot one, they may be taken with the white-winged harlequin; and still later in the evening the phalena or moths will prove effective.

The northern sportsmen are now on the alert to complete their summer sport, and lay by the fishing for the ramrod. The grilse, which returned last month, will now take the fly. The salmon and sea trout also afford the angling visitors to the lochs of Scotland a surfeit of sport, and they return home surprised at the magnificent scale in which fishing is carried on in the land of flood and mountain. On the lakes of Northumberland and Cumberland small perch may be taken in myriads by the tourist. The burn or beak trout will also afford much amusement to the visitor, who will hardly fail to be amused with this dingy and diminutive specimen of *Salmo fario*, noticed by Ausonius on account of its beauty:—

Purpureusque salar stellatus tergo guttula.

During his wanderings, the gillaroo trout may probably engage his attention, as well as the char and gwyniad, which, being scarce, cannot fail to interest him. Char abound in the English lakes of Winander Mere, in Westmorland; Ullswater, in Cumberland; in Llyn Quellyn, near the foot of Snowdon; and in Merionethshire. In Scotland, in Loch Tay, and Loch Inch, and other neighbouring lakes; and in Ireland, in Lough Esk. The gwyniad is almost unknown to the angler; but the vast shoals that approach the shores during spring and summer are as great a boon to the poor of inland counties as the return of the herring is to those who dwell upon the coast; and it is recorded that an Ullswater fisherman took between 7000 and 8000 at one draught. It is there called shelly—a name which the inhabitants of Cumberland give also to the chub, from its being a scaly fish. This fish is found in Lough Neagh, Ireland, and is called the pollen; and in Loch Maben, in Scotland, where it is termed the vangis. The Scotch have a tradition that it was first introduced by their beauteous but ill-fated Queen, Mary Stuart; and, as in her time the Court was filled with the French, it is not at all unlikely that the name was derived from the vendosio, a dace to which, from the whiteness of its scales, it bears some slight resemblance. The British name, gwyniad, or whiting, was bestowed upon it for the same reason. It is a native of the lakes in Cumberland; and of Wales, in Pembre Moer, near Bala, in Merionethshire. In the lakes of the alpine parts of Europe it is found, as in those of Switzerland (in that of Geneva it is named ferra), of Savoy, and Italy—of Norway, Sweden, and Lapland, where, according to Schaffer, they are caught of the weight of 10 or 12 lb.



"FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY."—SCULPTURED BY J. THOMAS.

"FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY." BY J. THOMAS.

MR. JOHN THOMAS, the well-known sculptor and architect, exhibits at the Royal Academy three fine works, "Faith," "Hope," and "Charity," which we engrave. They have been executed for a mausoleum now being erected in the Necropolis, Glasgow, for the family of John Houldsworth, Esq. The mausoleum is of large dimensions, of a severe and classical style of architecture, and pure in taste. The entrance is closed with handsome bronze doors, on the outside of which, on bold pedestals, will be placed the statues of "Faith," "Hope," and "Charity." The interior of the mausoleum is of polished red granite. The group of "Faith" will be placed on an altar pedestal, and lighted from above, through squares of thick glass of a golden hue, with a bright star cut in each. We consider these sculptures to be amongst the best of Mr. Thomas's productions. The "Faith" is noble in character, firm, and dignified in attitude. The "Hope" is replete with kind and benevolent sentiment. In her arms a child is nestling, upon which her face beams with tender affection. The "Charity" is a finely-conceived figure; the face upturned, with a divine expression, as fixed on heavenly works. Two spiritual beings kneel on either side at her feet. The drapery of these figures is gracefully arranged and truthful in texture, and the chiseling of the whole masterly and delicate. When these works are fixed in their positions the mausoleum will be acknowledged as a distinguished ornament to the great northern city.

MR. ALDRIDGE, THE AFRICAN TRAGEDIAN.

WE this week engrave a portrait of Mr. Aldridge, better known as the "African tragedian." His impersonations of the characters to which his colour peculiarly suits him are those of *Zanga*, *Shylock*, and *Othello*. Mr. Aldridge has just returned from the Continent after a long and successful tour of professional engagements. At Sax-Meiningen he was presented by the reigning Sovereign (the brother of the late Queen Adelaide) with the Nassau gold medal of the order of the Royal House of Saxony, and he has also been made member of several scientific and literary Continental institutions. In 1853, on the occasion of Mr. Aldridge's first appearance in his professional capacity at Berlin, his performances were honoured by the presence of their Majesties the King and Queen, the Prince and Princess of Prussia, and the whole of the illustrious Court, and was presented by his Majesty Frederick William IV. (the founder, president, and patron) with the society's massive gold medal. It bears on one side the medallion in relief of the King, surrounded by figures emblematic of the Arts and Sciences, Poetry, Painting, Sculpture, &c. On the obverse is depicted the embellishment representing the Royal Museum of Berlin.

At Sax-Meiningen, last January, after his performance of *Shylock*, Baron von Tillich, the General Intendant, by command of the reigning Sovereign, presented Mr. Aldridge with the Royal Saxon House Order, with the medal in gold; and the month following he was introduced, kissed hands, and received his diploma from his Royal Highness. What enhances this great distinction is, that Mr. Aldridge is the only actor, native or foreign, so decorated. It is, moreover, expressly stated in his diploma that he is permitted to wear the medal next in order to the members of the Royal house of Saxony, and it is accompanied by a beautiful decoration in the shape of a Maltese Cross in gold. The best proof, therefore, that can be given of the appreciation of his merits as an actor and a gentleman those foreign Potentates is to be found in the fact that he has

been presented with those costly medals and the authentic credentials by which they are accompanied. Mr. Aldridge's career in life has been very remarkable. He was originally intended for the



IRA ALDRIDGE, THE AFRICAN TRAGEDIAN, AS "OTHELLO."

Church; but, having no vocation for that profession, he turned his attention to the stage, and made his début in New York, in the character of *Rolla*, and was loudly applauded. He then came to this country, and had the good fortune to achieve honours at the Glasgow University; after which he came to London (having still the old leaven of theatrical propensity), and was immediately engaged at several of our metropolitan theatres, at which his impersonations of the characters of *Othello*, *Gambina*, *Zanga*, and other characters suited to his complexion, were so successful that he rose rapidly in histrionic fame; and now in every town of note on the Continent his merits are really and substantially appreciated.

Mr. Aldridge was engaged at Sadler's Wells Theatre, where he performed several leading characters, and then left that establishment for the Olympic. At the conclusion of this latter engagement he withdrew from the stage and went through that course of study and practice which he deemed essential to the acquirement of a sound metropolitan reputation. He then entered on a provincial tour, and acted in succession at Brighton, Chichester, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Exeter, &c. In each of those towns his reception was enthusiastic in the extreme; and, his reputation as a tragedian having reached the capital, he received an engagement from Mr. Calcraft to perform in Dublin, and during his engagement the newspapers spoke in the highest terms of his great and remarkable talents as an actor. He subsequently ran through his list of favourite characters—viz., *Zanga*, *Rolla*, *Gambina*, *Othello*, *Alhambra*, *Mungo*, *Shylock*, *Hassan*, *Fiesco*—in all of which he added to his rapidly-increasing reputation. During this period Edmund Kean came to Dublin, and (having seen Mr. Aldridge play), with that good nature which was so conspicuous a part of his character, gave him a letter of introduction to the manager of the Bath theatre, couched in very complimentary terms. At Belfast Mr. Charles Kean played *Iago* to Mr. Aldridge's *Othello*, and he played *Aboan* to that gentleman's *Oronoko*. Among the testimonials which he received from distinguished members of the profession was one from Mr. Sheridan Knowles. After the fulfilment of several provincial engagements, Mr. Aldridge received an offer from Mr. Laporte, at that time the lessee of the Italian Opera and of the Covent-garden Theatre, and made his appearance at the latter house, April, 1833, in his usual popular characters, and at the fall of the curtain he was called for and enthusiastically applauded; indeed, nothing could have been more complete than his success on those occasions. While performing at Manchester, in 1834, he received a highly complimentary note from Madame Malibran, who stated that never in the course of her professional career had she witnessed a more interesting and powerful performance. In 1848 he accepted another engagement at the Surrey, and made his appearance there in the character of *Zanga*. Upon this occasion the press was unanimous in its expression of unqualified approbation of his acting. As both a tragic and a comic actor Mr. Aldridge's talents are undeniably great. In tragedy he has a solemn intensity of style, bursting occasionally into a blaze of fierce invective or passionate declamation; while the dark shades of his face become doubly sombre in their thoughtful aspect: a nightlike gloom is spread over them, and an expression more terrible than paler lineaments can readily assume. In farce he is exceedingly amusing: the ebony becomes polished; the coal emits sparks. His face is the faithful index of his mind; and, as there is not a darker frown than his, there is not a broader grin. The ecstasy of his long shrill note in "Opossum up a gum-tree" can only be equalled by the agony of his cry of despair over the body of *Desdemona*. In 1852 he went

to Germany, where he remained three years; his success during that period was all that the most ardent aspirer after histrionic fame could desire. At the special request of the Court of Sweden he visited Stockholm in the early part of last year, and gave representations at the Court Theatre; and, notwithstanding the prices in all parts being doubled, and in some instances trebled, such was the anxiety to see this gentleman that every seat was disposed of several days previous to the representations.

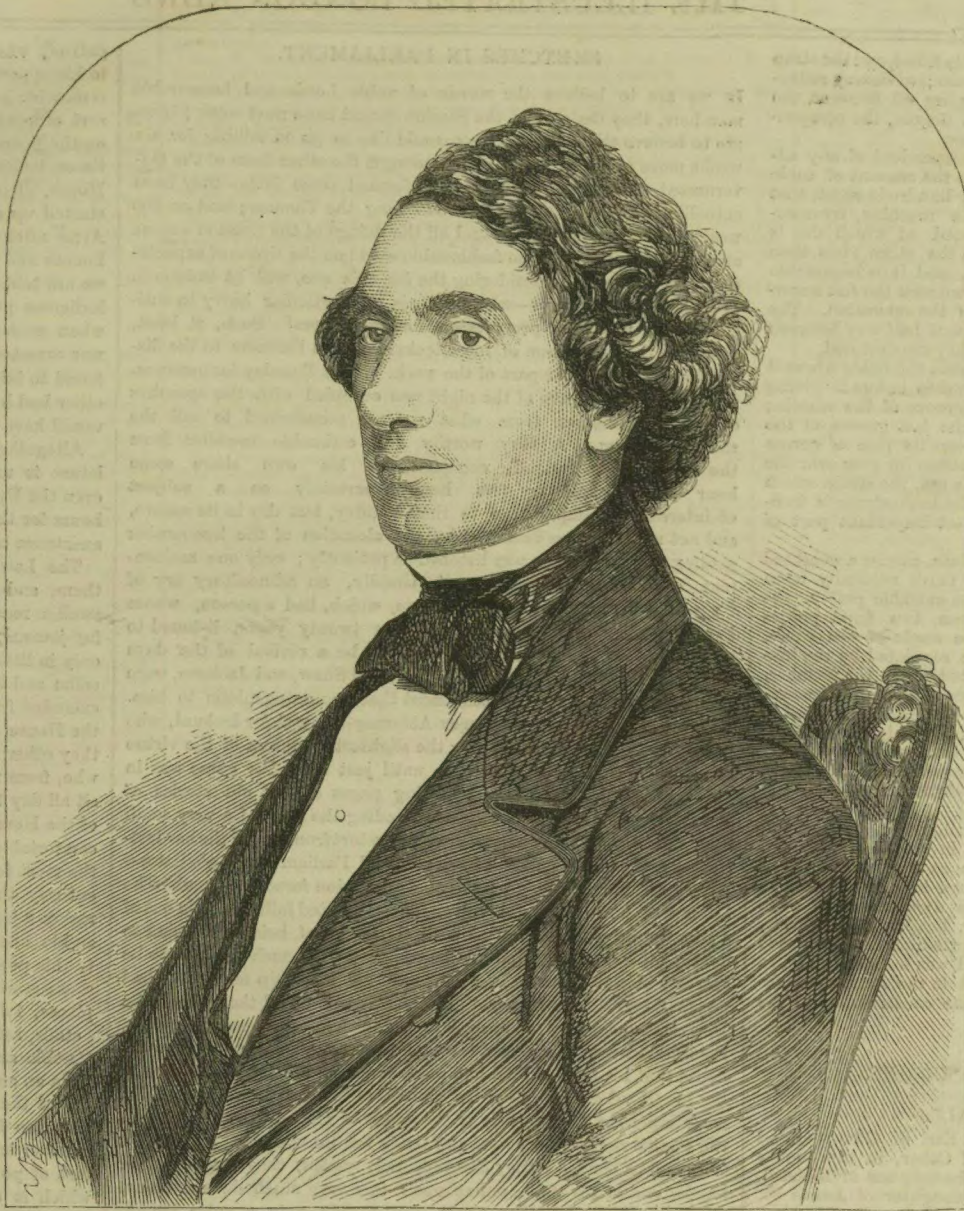
THE HON. J. A. MACDONALD,
PREMIER OF CANADA.

JOHN ALEXANDER MACDONALD, the present Attorney-General for Western Canada, and leader of the Administration, was born at Glasgow in 1815. He is the eldest son of the late Hugh Macdonald (a member of a respectable family in Sutherlandshire, and for many years a manufacturer in Glasgow), who, with his family, emigrated to Canada in 1820. The subject of our memoir received his early education at the Royal Grammar School at Kingston, under the care of Dr. Wilson, Fellow of Oxford, and Mr. Baxter, his successor; and, having chosen the bar for his profession, was admitted at Osgoode Hall in 1836.

Early distinguished for great quickness and talent and happy address, he became a general favourite with the profession and those frequenting the courts. In 1838 he successfully defended a large number of prisoners implicated in the rebellion of 1837-8; and again, in 1839, his professional services were engaged for the defence of the so-called General Von Schultz, a prominent leader of a numerous band of American sympathisers, who, with ten of his misguided followers, paid the forfeit of their lives for their insane attempt to revolutionise Canada. In 1844 Mr. Macdonald entered political life as member for Kingston, under the auspices and leadership of Mr. Draper, C.B., the present Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, Canada West, and two years afterwards accepted office as Receiver-General. He was then transferred to the Crown Lands Department, where his valuable services were suddenly brought to a close by the change of Government in 1848, when the Baldwin-Lafontaine Administration came in. From that time to the autumn of 1854 he sat on the Opposition benches, taking a prominent part in the debates, and exhibiting his varied powers of argument and sarcasm, ever happy in presenting the subject under discussion in some new and unexpected light, taking it out of the beaten track, and enriching it with classic and historical allusions. In 1854, on a change of Administration, Mr. Macdonald accepted the office of Attorney-General under Sir Allan N. M'Nab, Bart., and continued to hold the post when Sir Allan resigned, and was succeeded by the Hon. T. E. Taché, until the autumn of 1857, when he was called upon, on the retirement of the latter, to form the Administration of which he is now the leader. During the whole of this period—not the least eventful in the constitutional history of the province—the chief conduct of the business of the House devolved on him, and he was, in fact, the animating spirit and chief moving power of those Administrations.

The vexed question of state endowment, of the seigniorial tenure,

and of the reconstruction of the Legislative Council upon the elective principle, were amongst the prominent subjects which marked the legislation of the day. His powers as a debater are of a high order, and nowhere has he been more successful or more in his element than in the Parliamentary arena, where his varied knowledge combined with profound acquaintance with constitutional law, and singular perspicuity and ingenuity, have left him without a rival.



THE HON. JOHN ALEXANDER MACDONALD, PREMIER OF CANADA.

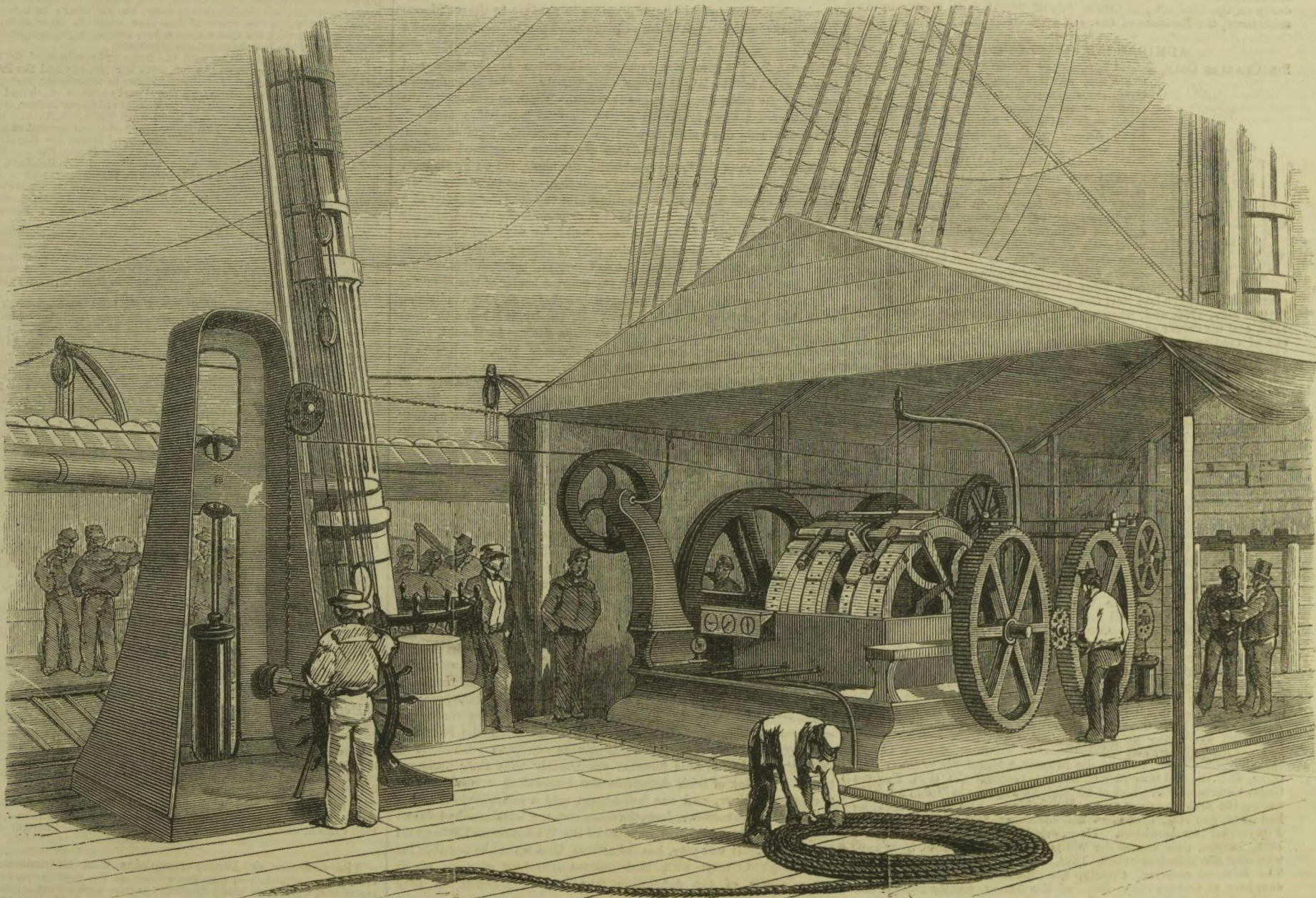
LAYING THE
ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.
THE PAYING-OUT MACHINE.

THE apparatus for paying out the Atlantic Telegraph Cable by the present expedition has been constructed upon the principle that additional retarding force can only be added to restrain and regulate the egress of the cable by order of the engineer in charge of the operation of paying out the wire; while, in the event of any increase of strain, the controlling power is automatically lessened, and may be altogether withdrawn in an instant. Before, the strain was adjusted by a handwheel capable of controlling the speed of the cable with great nicety, but liable, as it turned out, to become an enemy instead of a friend, if not properly managed. While the weather was moderate the former arrangements more than satisfied the most sanguine anticipations of success, paying out the cable in the deep water with a very small percentage of slack; but when a heavy sea came on the unequal drag upon the cable, arising from the increased motion of the ship, made it necessary occasionally to manipulate the handwheel of the brakes with some degree of skill, in order to compensate for the demand, so to speak, for line as the ship rose. A moment's omission in this respect lost the cable upon which so much depended, and in this may be seen the extraordinary vigilance and capacity which are required in an operation of this kind; for, while in other undertakings, such as the launching of the *Leviathan*, a failure one day may be obviated by a success the next, in laying an electrical conductor across the Atlantic one brief accident determines the failure of the whole enterprise.

In the modified machinery some of the good features of the old appliances are adhered to, such as the employment of grooved sheaves, fitted to the semicircumference of the cable, and in their being keyed to their axles outside the bearings by which they are supported; the old girders, bedplates, and plummer-blocks are used, but the spurwheels by which the shafts were geared together, so that the machine could be used for hauling in as well as for paying out, are removed, space being left on the shafts (outside the bearings on the opposite side to the sheaves) so that they can be readily put on the shafts if requisite, and by this alteration the weight and friction of the machine are considerably reduced. The main improvement, however, consists in the self-compensating brakewheels and the dynamometer.

The brakes—which are constructed upon the principle which Mr. Appold introduced for use in galls in order to prevent an unintentional increase of labour falling upon the prisoners through the unequal adhesion between frictional surfaces in contact at different speeds and under varied circumstances—are four in number.

Four cast-iron drums are fixed upon the shafts of the two pulleys, and each of these is surrounded by a strap composed of elmwood blocks fastened together by two hoop-iron belts. The ends of the strap are attached to a compensating arm, at different distances from the centre, and, by placing weights upon levers, in connection with the brakes, the revolution of the sheaves can be checked at will; but on any increase of strain, such as can be produced for experiment by placing sand upon the drums so as to augment the adhesion between



THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH PAYING-OUT MACHINE.

them and the wooden blocks) the weight is slightly lifted, and the strap slackened proportionately to the additional strain; while any reduction of the adhesion, as for instance by dropping oil between the surfaces, the weight is lowered to a very slight degree, the compensation being tightening the strap at the same time.

This effect is instantaneous, and entirely independent of any adjustment by hand. If it is desired to balance the amount of cable outside the ship by a given strain, say of thirty hundredweight, that amount will be continuously exerted by the machine, irrespective of the pitching of the ship, or the speed at which she is steaming; more cable will be given out when the stern rises than when it falls, but the strain will be the same, and it is impossible that any additional retardation can be offered without the full knowledge and orders of the engineer in charge of the operation. The machines will be placed on the upper decks, about half-way between the stern and centre of the vessels for which they are destined.

The cable will be led over riggers directly from the holds where it is coiled to the machine, a small drum immediately before it giving a slight tautness to feed it fairly into the first groove of the wheels; coming to the drum quite slack, it leaves the last groove of the machine with all the strain necessary to keep its rate of egress within bounds in deep water; but, before it passes for ever over the large pulley at the stern which leads it into the sea, the strain which is exerted by the weights used to tighten the brakestraps is indicated upon a dynamometer, which forms a most important part of the apparatus.

A strong upright framing, made of boiler-plate, carries a weighted pulley, working upon sliding bearings, which move vertically upon suitable guides. The cable passes under the movable pulley, the lower edge of which is about ten feet from two fixed pulleys over which the cable is also led, so that the angle of the cable, and accordingly the position of the pulley, is regulated by the tension brought upon it, and this being graduated upon the framing, and indicated by a pointer, any variation of strain is instantly known.

Opposite the scale upon which the tension is shown is fixed a wheel, by which the pressure of the whole of the weights upon the brakes can be instantly removed should any emergency require it. Thus, although the strain can be entirely removed should the index approach a dangerous point, it is not competent for any one but the engineer himself to increase it at any time.

In the Engraving, which is taken from a photograph by Maull and Polyblank, the paying-out machine is shown in perspective nearest to the observer, the dynamometer being seen at the further end of the paying-out machine. The bystanders have been introduced to show the comparative size of the machine dynamometer. The tallest figure standing by the machine is Mr. Bright, the engineer, and one of the original projectors of the Atlantic line; beside him is Mr. Appold, by whom the form of brake used was invented; and in the distance is Mr. Clifford, who was engaged in the former expedition, and in the experiments which led to the construction of the present machinery.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE EARL OF GLENGALL.

THE RIGHT HON. RICHARD BUTLER, second Earl of Glengall, and Viscount Caher, and twelfth Baron Caher, of Caher, in the county of Tipperary in the peerage of Ireland, was the only son of Richard, the first Earl, by his wife Emily, youngest daughter of James St. John Jeffreys, Esq., of Blarney Castle, Cork. He was born in May, 1794, and married, the 20th February, 1834, Margaret Lauretta, younger daughter and coheir of the late William Mellish, Esq., of Woodford, the great army contractor. By this lady, who survives him, the Earl leaves issue two daughters, the Ladies Margaret and Matilda Butler. The Earl succeeded to the family honours on the demise of his father, the first Earl, the 2nd January, 1819. He has been an Irish representative Peer since 1830. He was for many years Colonel of the Tipperary Militia. His Lordship was favourably known in the literary and dramatic world, as the author of some plays of merit, among which is the popular farce of the "Irish Tutor." He latterly contributed several political essays to the columns of the Conservative press. The Earl died rather suddenly on the 22nd ult., at Cowes, Isle of Wight. As he leaves no male issue, the Earldom of Glengall becomes extinct.

ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES OGLE.

SIR CHARLES OGLE, second Baronet, of Worthy, Hants, Admiral of the Fleet, was the eldest son of Sir Chaloner Ogle (who received knighthood, and was created a Baronet for his professional services, and died Senior Admiral in the British Navy August 27th, 1816), by Hester, his wife, youngest daughter and coheir of Dr. John Thomas, Bishop of Winchester. Sir Charles was brother of Major Thomas Ogle, of the 58th Regiment, who was killed in the boats at the landing in Egypt in 1801, brother-in-law of the present Lord Dacre, uncle of Captain Graham Ogle, R.N., and a relative of Sir Christopher Ogle Knight, who died Admiral of the Fleet in 1751. One of his father's sisters was mother of the present Rear-Admiral de Starck, and another grandmother of the late Earl Grey. Sir Charles Ogle was born the 24th of May, 1775, and when a youth, entered the Royal Navy about 1788, and his career as a seaman, from its very commencement, was one of continual arduous labour, and high distinction. Ogle, in 1794, when on board the *Boyne*, under Sir John Jervis, commanded a boat (amid heavy fire) at the capture of two schooners, lying at anchor with others, near Maran, Martinique, where he also assisted at the taking of Pigeon Island. At the siege of Guadaloupe, Ogle again commanded a division of seamen, and greatly distinguished himself by his conduct at the storming of Fort Fleur d'Épée. Having become a Captain, he, in November, 1798, went to Jamaica, under the orders of Sir Hyde Parker, where he made many captures, and received the thanks of his Admiral for the activity he had shown. He received the Turkish Gold Medal for his services during the Egyptian campaign. He, in April, 1805, was appointed to the *Unité*, and sent to the Mediterranean under the orders of Lord Collingwood, where he was employed successfully in obtaining the release of the Sicilian slaves from the Dey of Algiers. He attained the rank of Rear-Admiral the 12th August, 1819. He was appointed Commander-in-Chief on the North American station in May, 1827, and remained there, doing much public good and making some valuable maritime discoveries, till July, 1830, when he returned to England. He became Vice-Admiral in 1830, and Admiral in 1841, and from 1841 to 1848 he was President of the Royal Naval School. In October, 1845, he hoisted his flag as Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, and so continued until the 30th of September, 1848, when he struck his flag as Admiral of the Red, his term of servitude having expired. The gallant Admiral during the latter period of his life devoted himself to assisting public charities, more particularly the Portsea, Portsmouth, and Gosport Hospital, and the Penitentiary with it. He was named Admiral of the Fleet the 8th October, 1857. Sir Charles Ogle, who succeeded his father as second Baronet the 27th August, 1816, married first, 22nd April, 1809, Charlotte Margaret, sister of Henry third Viscount Ogle, and of the present Admiral Sir William Hall Gage, G.C.H., and daughter of the late General the Hon. Thomas Gage, Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces in North America during the first American war. By that lady, who died in 1814, he had issue, one son, Chaloner—his successor, formerly a Captain in Army—and two daughters. He married, secondly, 4th September, 1820, Letitia, daughter of Sir William Burroughs, Bart., by whom, who died the 15th November, 1832, he had another son, William. The Admiral married, thirdly, the 10th April, 1834, Mary Anne, daughter of George Cary, Esq., of Tor Abbey, county Devon, and relict of John Dalton, jun., Esq., of Thurnham Hall, county Lancaster, and of Sir John Hayford Thorold, Bart., by which lady, who died the 4th February, 1842, he had no issue. Sir Charles Ogle died on the 16th ult., and was succeeded by his elder son, now Sir Chaloner Ogle, the third Baronet, who married, in 1842, Eliza, daughter and heiress of William Thomas Roe, Esq., of Withdean, Sussex, and has issue a son and a daughter.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

If we are to believe the words of noble Lords and honourable members, they desire that the Session should close next week; if we are to believe their actions, they would like to go on talking for six weeks more at least. To be sure, amongst the other feats of the Government—and they really have performed some feats—they have actually succeeded in partially deodorising the Thames; and as the weather is somewhat cooler, and all the doings of the London season are not yet over, is not the fashionable world on the tiptoe of expectation of a fête which, considering the *locus in quo*, will be unique in every sense of the word—why there is no particular hurry to anticipate the period of preparation for the moors? Such, at least, would be the impression of mere lookers-on and listeners to the discussions of the earlier part of the week. Take Tuesday for instance. Very nearly the whole of the night was occupied with the speeches of three gentlemen from what we are accustomed to call the sister kingdom. A very worthy and estimable member from the North of Ireland occupied to his own share some hour and a half or two hours; certainly on a subject of interest and importance to that country, but dry in its nature, and not moistened or flavoured by the elocution of the honourable gentleman; and yet he was listened to patiently; only one malcontent occasionally growling out, timidly, an admonitory cry of "move." Then followed a discussion, which, had a person, whose Parliamentary recollections go back for twenty years, listened to blindfolded, he would have supposed to be a revival of the days when O'Connell flourished, and Lefroy, and Shaw, and Jackson, were the impersonation of every sentiment that was antagonistic to him. Imagine at this time of day an ex-Attorney-General for Ireland, who had never been able to discover the slightest symptom of the virtue of resignation in a Chief Justice until just after the game was in the hands of his successor, speaking pages of the old stories of Orangeism, and so imperfectly commanding the facts of a very small case indeed as to invite a most crushing retort from one of the hardest-hitting and most merciless of forensic and Parliamentary gladiators. Even Lord Palmerston's wonted self-possession forsook him when he attempted, lamely enough, to drag his discomfited follower from out of a situation in which he stood a good chance of being trampled to death, after being hurled to the ground with such force as to be scarcely able to arise without aid; and his Lordship must have had no small addition to his mortification when he found that Lord John Russell, having crept up to the last seat on the front Opposition bench, thought it necessary to come to the rescue, and at once to show his belief that his noble friend had made a mess of his attempt at assisting his friend and to assert that the lead of the Opposition was in commission, and not wholly in the hands of the ex-Premier. As to the Ministerialists, they went positively frantic over Mr. Whiteside's tremendous oration: they cheered, they yelled, they clapped their hands, and at its close, unless one's ears were much deceived, one, some two or three cried out "Encore!" When, in a voice tremulous with emotion, and almost sinking beneath the weight of the storm of disapprobation with which he was greeted, Mr. Fitzgerald announced that he should not go to a division, and the motion was negatived, the faces that clustered thick behind the Treasury seats were a study. Exultation is a poor word; demoniac joy, perhaps, better describes the tone of the demonstration against an unpopular Irish ex-official by a large section of his compatriots. Animating and exciting as was the scene, few who witnessed it—always supposing that they are natives of this side of the water—would wish to see it repeated. And thus one of those remaining nights of the Session, which are said to be so precious in relation to the avoidance by members of the Legislature of plague and pestilence, was thrown away.

Then take the previous evening. It was a supply night, and Government is very late this year with supply, and has a tolerable cantle of the estimates yet to get through. Well, as if stung by the announcement that Ministers meant to take possession of Tuesdays—the only days still devoted to the common herd of members to pasture in—half-a-dozen gentlemen interposed motions on the question of the Speaker's leaving the chair, led on by Captain Vivian in his easy manner, elegantly regardless of the solemnity of Mr. Disraeli's appeal to the House to allow him to bring the Session to a close before the Thames performed that operation more effectually by the prostration of the men who would be required to pass the measures; and, whereas on Tuesday they recklessly bounced through the night, on Monday they prosed and potted through it until that comparatively early hour at which the present leader of the House of Commons seems determined that legislators, being only human beings, shall close the labours of their long day. By-the-by, it is just a question if, by the substitution of continuous morning sittings for the old, after-twelve-o'clock, sharp, rapid debates on minor bills, much time is actually gained. When members find themselves in a house which is as cool and as comfortable as it can be at Westminster at midday, with four hours before them—especially if the stage be Committees—they do not hurry themselves, or go right to the points, as they used to do when they knew that at one o'clock in the morning there was always a section of the white-waistcoat brigade to hoot them along when they get prosy. Look what an unusual time the Scotch members have kept the Lord Advocate waiting to ascend the judgment seat, by their protracted discussions and divisions on the Scottish Universities Bill. Many a time has one seen a Scotch measure—which had already gone through the process of manipulation in that close committee out of the House into which Scotch members resolve themselves on everything relating to the business of their country—go through an important stage in half an hour after twelve o'clock; and this not hastily or carelessly, but as the result of the preparation above alluded to; and the debate would go on with the unadulterated flavour of that Doric which marks the accent of the inhabitants north of the Tweed, and with the steady, sober argumentation which gains half its power from its directness to the national advantage, which is also characteristic of Scotch members. In this case, however, the temptations of day sittings, and the presence of the rival parties on the question from Aberdeen, who are ranged on opposite sides, under the gallery, is too much for the Northern members; and they really have got into as nearly an Irish mode of dealing with the bill as is possible consistently with their temperaments. Talking of Irish doings in the Legislature reminds one of another—a minor, and one had almost said a ridiculous—personal episode between members from the sister country, which one had almost forgotten in the superior attractions of the Whiteside and Fitzgerald tournament. It was pity, but 'twas true, that when the member for the King's County—with that solemn grandeur of style which reminds one of the gentlemen who are accustomed to play such parts as, say, the *Doge of Venice*, in "Othello"—sought the sympathies of the House for his secession from the ranks of that independent Irish memberdom which has entered into pacific relations with the Government, and his real and imaginary crucifixion in the Irish newspapers, there was a general whispering about among the spectators of the well-known anecdote of the

patriot, who thanked God that he had a country to sell. In justice to his opponent on the occasion, let it be said that one does not remember anything in Parliament so like an approximation to that sort of contest which one hears of incredulously, as taking place on the floors of legislative assemblies in the United States. In olden times, looking to the manner in which Mr. Patrick O'Brien left the House, after Mr. Maguire's reply to him, some member would have started up and appealed to the Speaker to send the Serjeant-at-Arms after him, and there have a solemn pledging of words of honour and so on, that the matter should go no further. But now we are told that even in Ireland a duel is considered only from a ludicrous point of view; and that, in one of the most recent cases, when such an affair was got up, one of the combatants, when he was arrested by the prearranged intervention of the magistrate, was found to be about to fight with a pistol without a lock, while the other had loaded an ancient weapon of that class with missiles that would have spread over a circumference of twenty yards.

Altogether, as things have gone, one does not see that the Legislature is unnecessarily hurrying itself out of the Session. Why, even the Upper House is sitting evening after evening till very late hours for them. To be sure, in this respect they have the valuable assistance of the Law Lords, as they are called.

The Law Lords deserve a chapter, not a sketch. Happily for them, and happily for the country, even in the overgrown and swollen records of Parliament which cumber the columns of the leading journal, the account of the goings on of the Law Lords are given only in little. Now be it understood that, besides the Lord Chancellor and Lord Lyndhurst, who for several obvious reasons may be excluded from the category, there are no less than five Law Lords in the House. They are all noblemen of advanced age, and who, were they other mortals, would consider themselves as worked out, but who, from mere habit, try to do the business of men of forty. They sit all day to hear appeals, as on them devolves the judicial business of the House; and, being on the spot, and having each of them a very comfortable retiring-room, of course appear at the evening sitting with the most terrible regularity. Of necessity they must be half, if not entirely, tired, or at any rate their nerves must be in that state which makes a man fidgety, if not testy. They have no particular seats, but are able about in all directions, mooning and rest as, chattering to this peer, and boring the other, and on every question which arises starting up, like Jacks in the box, from all sorts of impossible places, following each other in contradictory fashion, nibbling at details, refining away principles, and incessantly calling each other "noble and learned friends" in tones which could only proceed from an accompaniment of gnashing of teeth; and, above all, every one of them speaks three or four times on every subject. But description fails one, and in the midst of the fervid heat of this summer one's powers collapse and one's energies shrink from the task of portraying the characteristics and the magnitude of boredom which is concentrated in a Law Lord of the nineteenth century. There have been, it is said, times when Chancellors like Hardwicke and Eldon, if they did not exactly rule, materially influenced the deliberations and the discussions of the House of Peers; it can confidently be asserted at the present time the least of all influences, and for the best of reasons, in that Assembly is that of the small but awfully mobile and garrulous body called the Law Lords.

THE COURT.

The King of the Belgians closed his visit to her Majesty and the Prince Consort yesterday (Friday), and, with his Royal sons and Imperial daughter-in-law, left Buckingham Palace, on his return to Brussels. His Majesty has made the most of his time while in this country, generally going out with the Queen once a day, and paying many personal visits to members of the Royal family and aristocracy.

On Saturday last the King, with the Duke and Duchess of Brabant, and the Count of Flanders, were present, with her Majesty and the Prince Consort, in the Riding School of the Royal Mews to witness Mr. Racy's exhibition. Mr. Racy introduced to the Royal party a zebra which had been subdued by his process, and also the thoroughbred horse Cruiser, and subsequently showed his system on a horse from the Royal Mews. The Prince Consort afterwards left town for the purpose of being present at the annual meeting of the Windsor Royal Association, of which his Royal Highness is president, and distributed the prizes in the Home Park. The Queen accompanied by the Princess Alice, the King of the Belgians, and the Duchess of Brabant, went in the afternoon to the White Lodge in Richmond Park. Her Majesty returned to Buckingham Palace at six o'clock. The King of the Belgians visited Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, at his residence in Portland-place. In the evening the Court honoured Her Majesty's Theatre with its presence.

On Sunday the Queen, the Prince Consort, the King of the Belgians, the Princesses Alice and Helena, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the Chapel at Buckingham Palace. The Rev. Mr. Selwyn preached the sermon. The King of the Belgians went to Clarendon, and returned to Buckingham Palace in the evening.

On Monday the Marquis of Exeter, K.G., Lord Steward of the Queen's household, had an audience of her Majesty, and presented a resolution of the House of Lords, that William Coatsdale Maxwell, Esq., had proved his claim to the title of Lord Herries, of Terregles, Scotland. The Prince Consort, attended by Colonel F. H. Seymour, was present in the forenoon at a fieldday of the Grenadier Guards in Hyde Park. The Queen and Prince Consort, with the Princesses Alice and Helena, accompanied by the King of the Belgians, the Duke and Duchess of Brabant, and the Count of Flanders, went in the afternoon to inspect the *Leviathan*. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party. The company consisted of the King of the Belgians, the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Brabant, the Duke of Brabant, the Count of Flanders, the Duchess of Cambridge, the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and the Princess Mary of Cambridge; his Serene Highness Prince Victor of Hohenlohe, his Highness the Maharajah Duleep Singh, the Lord Chancellor and Lady Chelmsford, the Belgian Minister, M. Van de Weyer, the Austrian Minister and Countess Apponyi, the Earl and Countess Granville, Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston. The Grenadier Guards band attended during dinner, and later in the evening the Bradford Festival Choral Society, numbering 210 voices, performed in the ball and concert-room.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Consort went to Frogmore. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were accompanied by the King of the Belgians, the Duke and Duchess of Brabant, and the Count of Flanders. Her Majesty dined at Frogmore, and the Royal party returned to Buckingham Palace in the evening.

Lady Churchill has succeeded the Duchess of Atholl as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen. The Earl of Verulam and Lieut.-Colonel F. Cavenish have succeeded Lord Croft and Major-General Berkeley Drummond as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Court, it is expected, will leave Buckingham Palace on Monday next for Osborne, where her Majesty and Court will chiefly reside until after the Prince Consort's birthday.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent and her Imperial Highness the Duchess of Brabant honoured the performance at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden, with their presence on Saturday evening.

The Baroness de Brunnow has issued cards for a ball at Chessham House, on Wednesday, the 14th of July. This will be the first occasion on which the Baroness has "received" since her return to the mansion made famous by its former munificent hospitalities.

A marriage is arranged to take place between Viscount Grey de Wilton, eldest son of the Earl and Countess of Wilton, and the Lady Elizabeth Craven, eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess Craven.

The *Courrier de Rheims* complains that the consumption of champagne wine has of late years been on the decline, and in proof it states that whereas in 1856-7 11,420,198 bottles were exported, and in 1857-8 only 7,368,310 were exported, and 2,421,454 were sold in France.

On Monday afternoon, as a party in a pleasure van was journeying across Clapham-common on its return from Hampton Court, the loose straw at the bottom of the vehicle burst into a blaze. The women's dresses took fire, and two of the females were so dreadfully burned that it was necessary to take them to the hospital.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

[The following abstract of the Parliamentary proceedings in both Houses on Friday, the 25th of June, appeared in the Saturday's edition of this Journal last week.]

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, JUNE 25.

THE SLAVE TRADE.—The Bishop of Oxford asked the noble Earl the Under Secretary for the Colonies when the papers relating to the horrible crime which had been the subject of discussion the other night would be laid on the table? and also with respect to the exportation of coolies, whether her Majesty's Government were prepared to take in hand such measures as might be necessary for purifying that trade?—The Earl of Carnarvon said he hoped it would be in his power some time next week to lay a measure on the table on the subject.

THE STATE OF THE THAMES.—A long conversation took place on this subject, at the conclusion of which the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, JUNE 25.

UNIVERSITY (SCOTLAND) BILL.—The House met at twelve o'clock, and went into Committee on this bill, the three first clauses of which were agreed to, and the House then adjourned till six o'clock.

ACCOMMODATION BILL.—In reply to Mr. Bass, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said there could be no doubt that dealings in accommodation bills of exchange had recently been carried to an alarming extent; but, at the same time, the subject was full of difficulty, and there was no intention upon the part of her Majesty's Ministers to propose any alteration of the law beyond the provisions contained in a bill to amend the law of bankruptcy and insolvency, which would be brought into the other House, by which it would be rendered illegal to grant a certificate to any bankrupt or insolvent who might have dealt improperly in such bills.

PETTYCOAT-LANE ON SUNDAYS.—Mr. K. SEYMOUR complained of the evils arising from the Sunday fairs in Pettycoat-lane, and inquired whether the Home Secretary intended to take any steps to suppress them?—The LORD MAYOR, from his experience in the matter, urged the necessity of doing something to cure the evils complained of.

STATE OF THE THAMES.

Mr. O. STANLEY brought under notice the intolerable nuisance created in the committee-rooms during the last three weeks, more recently in the House itself, and generally in those districts of the metropolis bordering on the river by the state of the Thames, and recommended that a bill should at once be brought in by Government to confer upon a Royal Commission the powers now possessed by the Metropolitan Board of Works for embanking the Thames, and diverting the sewage of the metropolis.

Mr. TITE said no good would be done by embanking the river, since it was admitted on all hands that the sewage water was brought back again by the tide. The general evil at the present time was considerably aggravated by the dry weather, owing to which a much smaller quantity of water than usual found its way from the upper part of the river, and he knew of no means by which the present evil could be cured; but he had been assured by Mr. Bidder, the eminent engineer, that the whole sewage of London might be deodorised for £40,000 a year, and returned to the Thames in the shape of pure water; and this plan was, in his idea, one that ought to be adopted, since any scheme of intercepting sewage that might be adopted would cost many millions of money, and not prove satisfactory after all.

Sir J. PAXTON said the whole sewage of London might be taken all the way to the German Ocean for £5,000,000 or £6,000,000, and that plan ought to be at once adopted.

Mr. ROUTELL said it was high time that something should be done, since the population on the banks of the river were living in a state of chronic cholera. At the same time he warned the House not to rush without due thought upon some colossal scheme of drainage, since the cost of the Victoria sewer, which was originally estimated at £12,000, had already cost nearly £200,000.

Mr. KENDAL and Mr. MANGLES called upon the Government to take the question into their own hands.

Lord J. MANNERS said the responsibility rested legally with the Metropolitan Board of Works; but the question was under the serious consideration of her Majesty's Government, who would lose no time in introducing such a measure as they might deem to be necessary to enable some proper scheme to be at once carried out, either by the existing Metropolitan Board of Works or some new body.

Mr. BRADY asserted that the Metropolitan Board of Works had been thwarted in every effort they had made by the late Chief Commissioner of Works.

Mr. BENTINCK protested against the imperial finances being charged with the expense of metropolitan improvements.

Mr. AYRTON blamed the faulty construction of the Metropolitan Local Management Act.

Sir B. HALL defended the course which he had hurriedly taken in connection with the question, and said the reason why the Metropolitan Board had had not been able so far to carry out any plan of intercepting drainage was because the House had struck out a clause from his bill which proposed to give power to the Lords of the Treasury to advance money to the Board. It was, however, impossible to dally longer with the question, and he recommended Lord J. Manners to inquire whether some scheme could not at once be carried out without waiting for a new act, and if a new act was necessary to bring in a bill directly.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER thought a great defect existed in the act which constituted the Metropolitan Board, since it did not give them a sufficient power of raising money for their purposes, and said he thought the time was come when that defect should be remedied. With regard to the state of the river generally, Government would not fail to give it their best attention. With reference to its effect upon that House, Government would endeavour with all possible energy and exertion to bring the business of the Session to a close as soon as possible with a due regard to the public requirements; and he hoped they would be supported in those endeavours by the House. The subject then dropped.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (NO. 3) BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on this bill, clauses 1 and 2 were agreed to without discussion. On clause 3 (providing for the appointment of a Secretary of State for India) a long debate ensued with regard to the manner in which the powers of that Minister over the finances of India should be defined; but the clause was ultimately agreed to, an amendment, moved in a restrictive sense, having been negatived by 221 to 77. Clauses 4, 5, and 6 were agreed to without discussion. The consideration of clause 7, appointing a Council of fifteen members to assist the Secretary of State, occupied the attention of the Committee until the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE STATE OF THE THAMES.—The Earl of MALMESBURY, in answer to observations made by Lord Ravensworth, stated that the Government had taken immediate measures for temporarily lessening the evils arising from the present state of the river Thames, by deodorising the sewers during the hot weather, on the plan adopted with success at Leicester. Government was ready to pass an act of necessity to guarantee the payment by rates for any expense incurred in the process; it was considered advisable to postpone permanently dealing with the question until the autumn.

THE ROYAL ASSENT was given by commission to the Property Qualification Bill, the Chancery Amendment Bill, the Peace (Ireland) Preservation Bill, and a number of private bills.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Earl STANHOPE moved that an address be presented to the Queen praying for the abolition of the special services now prescribed in the Rubric for the 5th of November, the 30th of January, and the 29th of May. He contended that the feelings embodied in them and the language were altogether unsuited to the present day, and to the sentiments of the members of the Church. He proposed to leave untouched the service for her Majesty's accession.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY gave his assent to the proposal of the noble Lord, as he entirely concurred in the views which he entertained on this subject.

The Bishop of LONDON supported the motion. The Bishop of OXFORD said the services were far too political, far too polemical, and far too epigrammatical, and therefore he should support their discontinuance in the authorised service of the Church, while he would retain them as annexes or records to the Book of Common Prayer. After some further conversation, the motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE SCOTCH UNIVERSITIES BILL, at the morning sitting, was further considered in Committee.

THE ROYAL ASSENT.—The House reassembled at six o'clock, and was shortly afterwards summoned to the House of Lords to hear the Royal assent given by commission to several bills.—The SPEAKER, upon his return, announced that the bill for abolishing the property qualification of members, and several other bills, had received the Royal assent.—This announcement was loudly cheered by the members on the Opposition side.

THE FUNDED DEBT BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee on this bill, Mr. WILSON moved, as an amendment, a resolution to the effect that loans should during a time of war should be paid off during a specified period in the time of peace.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER having referred to the resolution submitted by the hon. gentleman, expressed a hope that the House would not consent to repeal the Act of George IV., referring to the Sinking Fund, inasmuch as it was, in his opinion, the most successful act that had been passed in reference to the finances of the country and the reduction of the National Debt. The right hon. gentleman then referred to a series of years, commencing with 1829 and coming down to 1853, showing that in all the years enumerated a large amount of the National Debt had been reduced by the operation of the act; and he expressed an opinion, as the hon. gentleman had given notice that it was his intention in the next Session of Parliament to move for a Committee to investigate the whole subject, that it

would be better for him not now to press his motion, and to postpone it until the period arrived for bringing forward the motion of which he had so given notice.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS supported the motion, believing that it would be a breach of faith with the public creditor if the bill were passed.

Mr. GLADSTONE considered that the proposition was prospective and theoretical, and he could not therefore give it his support. He should support the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Sir G. C. LEWIS thought the principle of a compulsory sinking fund, by which the reduction of the debt should be removed from the accident of surplus, was the one which ought to be acted upon, and it was that which the House itself enforced when it gave borrowing powers to inferior bodies.

Mr. CARDWELL opposed the motion, as involving the House in new prospective arrangements which past experience did not justify it in assuming.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY urged that the only true sinking fund was to be found in a vigilant economy.

Lord J. RUSSELL remembered the mischief caused by the old sinking fund, and approved of the system introduced by the Act of 1839.

The House then went into Committee, without a division, and the bill passed through.

MILITARY ORGANISATION.

On the motion for going into a Committee of Supply, Captain VIVIAN called attention to the resolution which had been agreed to relating to military organisation. If his motion were not carried out that Session, he felt that, such was the general and growing interest manifested in its success, it must be carried next session.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained from practical illustrations that the practice of the House did not always require a Government to carry out resolutions agreed to by that House.

Lord J. RUSSELL defended the conduct pursued by his hon. and gallant friend, and thought the Government were much to blame for not taking some notice of the resolution passed on a former occasion by that House.

General PEEL said the greatest harmony existed between the two departments of Commander-in-Chief and Secretary of State for War; and that, in his opinion, the duties of the two offices ought to be held by distinct individuals—the office of Commander-in-Chief being necessarily held by a military man.

Colonel NORTH said the whole proceeding arose from a jealousy by the civilians of the military authority.

Sir W. CORDINGTON was of opinion that it was necessary to define the duties of Commander-in-Chief from those of the Secretary of State for War, and he agreed with his hon. and gallant friend in the opinion that it was necessary that the office of Commander-in-Chief should be held by a military man, and not by a civilian.

The subject dropped after a few words from Mr. Ellice and Sir F. Smith.

THE STATE OF THE THAMES.

Mr. ROUTELL called attention to the state of the Thames, and moved that it was the duty of the Executive Government to take immediate measures for abating this dangerous nuisance. His object now was simply to test the feeling of the House on the question, and on a future day he should be prepared with a resolution for the appointment of a Thames Committee, and defining its duties.

Several members—among whom were Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Tite, Mr. Cox, Mr. Blackburn, Sir John Shelley, and Mr. Locke—then discussed, in short speeches, the question whether the permanent remedial works were of national or merely local interest; Mr. Cox intimating his intention of submitting a motion on the subject on an early day.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER and Lord J. MANNERS stated in the course of the discussion that orders had been given for deposits from 200 to 250 tons of lime daily, near the mouths of the sewers, which would cost £1500 a week.

After some further conversation, in which Mr. Locke and Mr. Bentinck took part, the motion was withdrawn.

THE STOREKEEPER AT WEEDON.

Colonel BOLDERO moved an address to her Majesty, praying for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the system upon which the books and stock had been respectively kept at Weedon, as well as the general mode in which the business of that establishment had been conducted, the result of such mode of conducting the business, and the state of the books and stock of stores. The gallant member supported his motion by a detail of circumstances connected with the original appointment of the storekeeper at Weedon, and the subsequent management of his department.

Mr. GILPIN seconded the motion.

General PEEL said he would not oppose the motion.

After a few words from Mr. H. BARING and Mr. CONINGHAM, the motion was agreed to.

The other orders were then disposed of.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE LEASE AND SALE OF TITLED ESTATES ACT AMENDMENT BILL was read a second time on the motion of Lord Cranworth.

THE COUNTY MANAGEMENT BILL was also read a second time.

ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION BILL.—On the motion of the Earl of HARDWICKE, and after a brief discussion, this bill was passed through Committee *pro forma*.

INDEPENDENCE OF PARLIAMENT BILL.—Lord BROUGHAM moved the second reading of this bill. The noble Lord briefly explained the provisions of his measure, which, however, he did not intend to carry beyond its present stage during this Session.—After a few remarks from Lord CAMPBELL, the bill was read a second time.

LAW OF SEQUESTRATION.—In reply to Lord St. Leonards, the Archbishop of CANTERBURY said that a bill had been proposed for the amendment of the Law of Sequestration, for the purpose of augmenting the allowance payable to curates engaged in the duties of parishes when the nominees of the incumbency had been sequestered. It was not, however, intended to proceed with the measure during the present Session.—A brief discussion ensued, after which the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

GALWAY DISFRANCHISEMENT BILL.—At the early sitting this bill was considered in Committee.—Mr. BUTT, who opposed the bill, moved that the Chairman should leave the chair; but the motion, after much debate, was negatived by a majority of 107 to 90.—An amendment, proposed by Mr. WHITEHEAD, limiting the operation of the bill to the voters who had given or accepted bribes at recent elections for Galway, was carried on a division by 158 to 102. The sitting was then suspended.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.—On resuming in the evening, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that on Tuesday next, and every succeeding Tuesday during the present Session, Government business should be allowed precedence over the private notices of motion.—The resolution was agreed to.

ORANGE LODGES (IRELAND).

Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD called attention to the address of the House of Commons to his late Majesty King William IV., of the 24th of February, 1836, and his Majesty's gracious answer thereto, and to the recent appointment of Mr. Cecil Moore, Grand Secretary of the Tyrone Orange Lodge, to the office of Sessional Crown Prosecutor for the county of Tyrone. He moved a resolution setting forth, "That in the opinion of the House the appointment to offices connected with the administration of the criminal law of members of the Orange confederation, or of any other political confederation founded on principles of religious exclusion, inculcating secrecy on its members, and acting by means of delegates or representatives, and of affiliated branches, tends to create well-founded jealousy and suspicion, highly detrimental to the ends of justice, and ought to be discouraged." Entering into various historical details respecting the Orange confederation, he contended that the organisation had ramified not only through Ireland, but in England, Scotland, and the colonies, everywhere constituting an engine for political purposes, stimulating religious animosity, and proving a fertile source of disturbance and danger to the country. The House in 1836 had condemned the confederacy, but the apparent dissolution of the society had never really been effected, and the organisation still retained all its original power of mischief. He did not wish the House forcibly to put down the Orange lodges, but simply to declare that they should not receive encouragement from the Government by the selection of their members for official appointments.

Mr. WHITEHEAD deprecated the resuscitation of forgotten calumnies. In support of his motion, Mr. Fitzgerald, he observed, had extracted arguments from exploded reports, and strung together a series of detached and insignificant facts. He denied that the Orange confederation deserved the censures applied to it. The association during the later years of its activity was engaged in resisting the efforts of O'Connell, which threatened to destroy Protestantism in Ireland and repeal the Union with England. In carrying out this object, zeal might occasionally have led the Orangemen to far; but he contended that their principles of organisation were strictly legal and practically unobjectionable. Mr. Whitehead then proceeded to vindicate the particular nomination upon which the present motion was founded, stating many facts and adducing much testimony to show that the person was perfectly qualified for the modest office he had been selected to fill.

Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD having briefly replied, loud calls were made for a division, when

Lord PALMERSTON, adverting to the fact which Mr. Whitehead had stated, that Mr. Moore had resigned his post as Secretary of an Orange lodge, suggested that the motion should be withdrawn.

Lord J. RUSSELL observed that the question involved more than a merely personal consideration. The particular appointment might have been judicious, but the House should still decide upon the general issue, whether the members of secret societies ought to be considered fit for public offices.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER recognised the duty of Government to discourage political associations in Ireland. But such motions as the present interfered with the realisation of that object. The case on which the resolution was based had, he contended, utterly broken down.

After a few words from Mr. ROEBUCK,

Mr. FITZGERALD said that he should not press his motion to a division. The resolution was then put and negatived.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

On the order for going into Committee on this bill, Mr. LYON moved as an amendment that this House will, upon this day three months, resolve itself into the said Committee.

Mr. DUNLOP and Mr. DE VERE supported the amendment.

Mr. E. B. DENISON and Mr. BYNG expressed a hope that the noble Lord would press the bill.

Mr. PFASE spoke in support of the bill.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For going into Committee, 19; for the amendment, 58.

The House then went into Committee.

On clause 1, Mr. LYON moved as an amendment to leave out the words "which has been celebrated at any time or place whatever within this realm or without."

This would provide that the bill should apply only to future marriages, rendering it inapplicable to anything that may have occurred in the past. Several members having spoken on the subject, the Committee divided, and the numbers were—For the amendment, 78; against it, 129.

Mr. STUART, on the same clause, proposed the insertion of words legalising marriage with a deceased wife's niece; but ultimately he withdrew his amendment.

On the question that clause 1 stand part of the bill, Mr. STUART moved that the Chairman do report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

The Committee divided, and the numbers were:—For reporting progress, 65; against it, 129.

The question was again put that clause 1 stand part of the bill.

After some conversation clause 1 was agreed to, as were clauses 2 and 3.

On clause 4, Mr. MONSELL moved an amendment, excluding Ireland from the operation of the bill.

The Committee divided, and the numbers were: For the amendment, 140; against it, 98. The amendment was therefore carried.

Lord BURY brought up a clause providing for certain difficulties which had been suggested.

Sir H. CAIRNS said the clause was nonsense. He moved that the Chairman do report progress.

The Committee divided, and the numbers were:—For reporting progress, 94; against it, 145.

Mr. C. BRUCE expressed a hope that the noble Lord would consent to the clause being fully considered in Committee.

The clause was withdrawn, upon the understanding that it should be brought up on the report.

The bill having gone through Committee, the Chairman reported the bill to the House amidst loud cheers.

PROTECTION OF FEMALE CHILDREN BILL.—Mr. DEEDS moved the second reading of this bill. It contained no new principle, except the application of existing acts to a larger class. The motion was agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be committed on Monday next.

MEMBERS FREEDOM FROM ARREST BILL.—Mr. HUNT moved the second reading of this bill.—Mr. E. P. BOUVIER moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time this day six months.—Mr. H. BRANLEY believed there was no occasion for the motion, for if constituencies had fair play they would return to Parliament the very best men they could find.—Mr. HUNT denied that freedom from arrest was a collective privilege, and maintained that members only retained it for their own advantage. The House divided, and the numbers were—for the second reading, 129; against it, 75. The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Wednesday next.

NEW GENERAL POST-OFFICE (EDINBURGH) BILL.—This bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

CHURCH RATES.—The Earl of DERBY said that, though he had presented petitions praying for the abolition of Church-rates, he did not agree with the prayer of the petitioners; and if, on the motion that the bill for their abolition be read a second time, no other noble Lord would move an amendment, he should himself move that the bill be read that day three months (Hear).

JEWISH DISABILITIES.

The Earl of DERBY, at considerable length, entered into the history of the two bills on this subject now before the House; and, having compared the principles of the measures, decided on preferring that of his noble and gallant friend (the Earl of LUCAN), which he considered was most in accordance with the dignity and recorded opinions of that House.

Lord LYNDRUST defended the course which he had taken. He had no personal vanity to gratify; if the object he had in view was attained, whether by the bill of his noble and gallant friend or his own, he was content, and would, therefore, give way, and suffer his own bill to stand over for the present.

Lord LUCAN then moved the second reading of his bill, with the principle of which our readers have already been made acquainted. The simple proposition of the bill is, to empower the House of Commons to omit the words "On the true faith of a Christian," in the case of a Jew, without affecting the oaths as administered in the House of Lords.

The motion having been seconded, the Earl of CLANCARTY, as an amendment, moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Lord BERNERS seconded the amendment.

After a long discussion, similar in its character to the numerous debates which had preceded it upon this question, the House divided, when the numbers were—For the bill (present 79, proxies 64), 143; against it (present 64, proxies 38), 97—majority, 46.

The bill was consequently read a second time.

Lord CAMPBELL then suggested the propriety of allowing the other bill (the Oaths Bill) to drop.

The Earl of DERBY, however, thought it would be better not to drop that bill at present, but to send the present bill to the other House when it had been read a third time, accompanied by reasons for their amendments to the other bill.

The subject then dropped.

THE MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE BILL was read a third time and passed.

THE PUBLIC GROUNDS AND PLAYGROUNDS BILL was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock, and remained till four in committee upon the Universities (Scotland) Bill, the remaining clauses of which were agreed to, with amendments.

THE ESTABLISHMENT AT WEEDON.—At six o'clock, Colonel FORRESTER brought down her Majesty's answer to an address of the House, in which her Majesty intimated that she had given instructions for the appointment forthwith of a Royal Commission to inquire into the system of books and accounts at the military establishment at Weedon.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (NO. 3) BILL.

The House again went into committee on this bill, beginning with clause seven, to which

Mr. GLADSTONE proposed to add certain words with the view of making it incumbent to insert the names of the members of the council in the bill; a proceeding which he thought would add materially to the moral weight of the council in the first instance.

Lord STANLEY objected to the inconvenience of such a course, partly because it would delay the progress of the measure, and partly because it would be a departure from the principle of election from and by the Court of Directors of a portion of the council from among themselves.

Sir E. PERRY supported the amendment, but it was negatived without a division, and the clause was then agreed to.

On clause 8,

Mr. V. SMITH proposed an amendment, with the view of rendering ineligible for election ex-members of the Court of Directors.

Lord STANLEY opposed the amendment, which, upon a division, was negatived by 146 to 71: majority, 75.

On clause 9, Lord A. V. TEMPLE moved an amendment so as to make a portion of the members of the Council permanently elective by proprietors of India Stock, Railway Shares, &c., but the amendment was negatived without a division, and the clause was then agreed to, as was also clause 10 as amended by Lord Stanley.

On clause 11, defining the tenure of office by members of the Council as being "during good behaviour,"

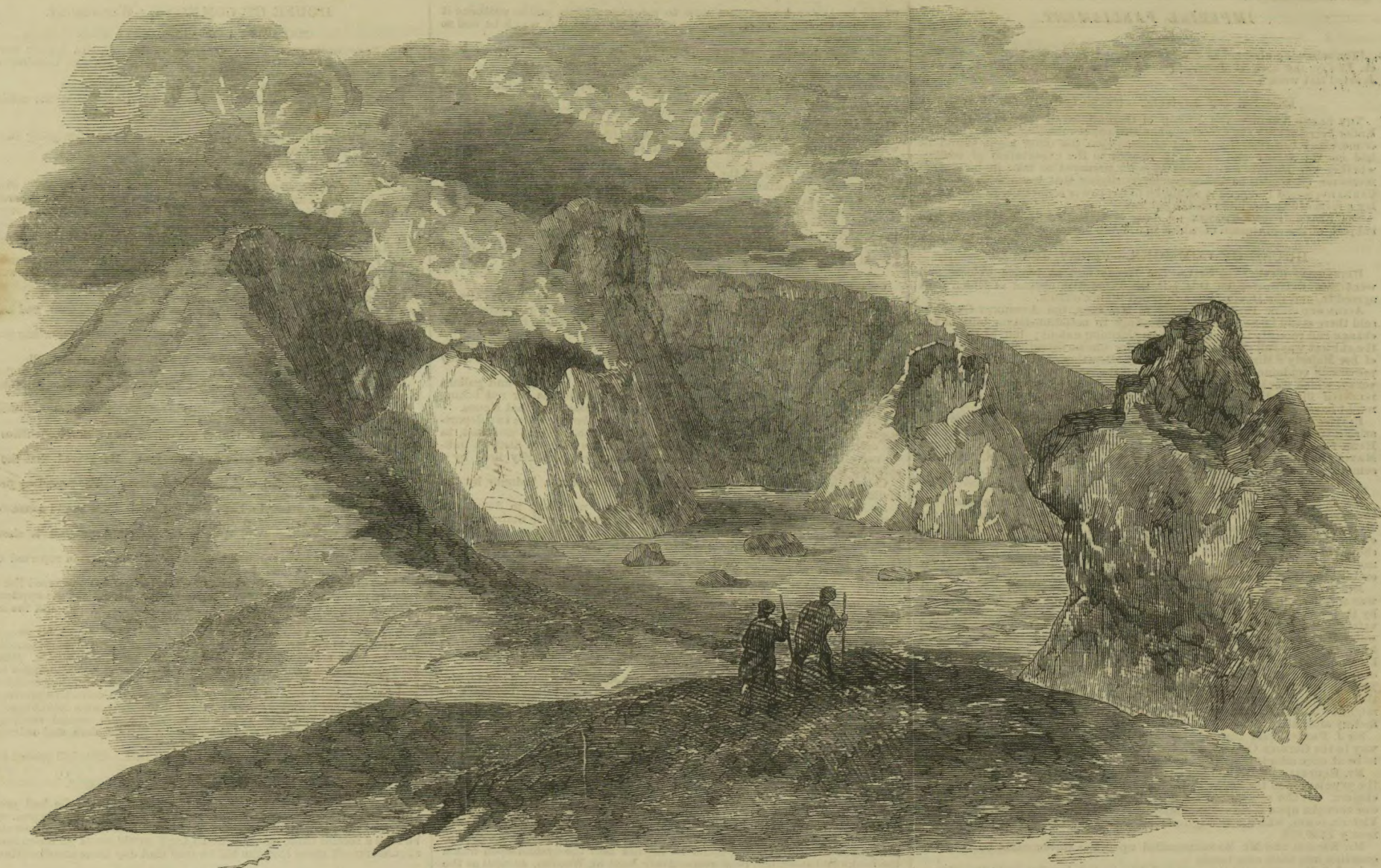
Mr. GREGSON, as an amendment, moved that the tenure of office should be five years, with eligibility for re-election.

A long discussion ensued, in the course of which Lord PALMERSTON supported the amendment; and ultimately the Committee divided, negativing the proposition by 154 to 118: majority against the amendment, 36. The clause was then agreed to.

Some further progress was made with the measure.

CORPORATION OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.—His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury gave his annual dinner at Lambeth Palace on Wednesday last to the Stewards of the Festival of the Sons of the Clergy. Amongst the company invited were the Lord Bishops of London, Chichester, and Gloucester, Lord Cranworth, the Hon. A. Duncombe, M.P.; the Hon. Mr. Baron Channell, the Lord Mayor, M.P.; Aldermen Copeland, M.P., Sidney, and Wire; the Dean of Westminster, Archdeacon Bouvier and Musgrave, the Master of the Temple, Rev. Dr. Vivian, Rev. Canon Jennings, Rev. Thomas Garnier, J. B. Deane, Edwin Progers, and J. Thomas, the Lord Mayor's Chaplain; the Master of Merchant Tailors' Company, the Recorder of London, W. H. Barrow, Esq., M.P.; Robert Hanbury, Esq., M.P.; and J. D. Allcroft, C. Hodgson, C. J. Baker, F. Knyvett, William Gilpin, Robert Hichens, J. W. Freshfield, Edmund Poppy, W. B. Ranken, W. F. White, S. Fisher, J. R. Kenyon, D.C.L. and Edward Wigram, Esqrs.

DEATH OF MR. KEARNEY.—We regret to hear of the death of Mr. W. H. Kearney, member of the New Water Colour Society, on the 25th ult., of decline. The last work which he lived to finish is the clever scene from the "Vicar of Wakefield," in this year's exhibition of the above society, which has been justly admired.



THE CRATER OF MOUNT ETNA IN 1809.—FROM A SKETCH BY SIGNOR GIMMELLARO.

A NIGHT ASCENT OF ETNA.

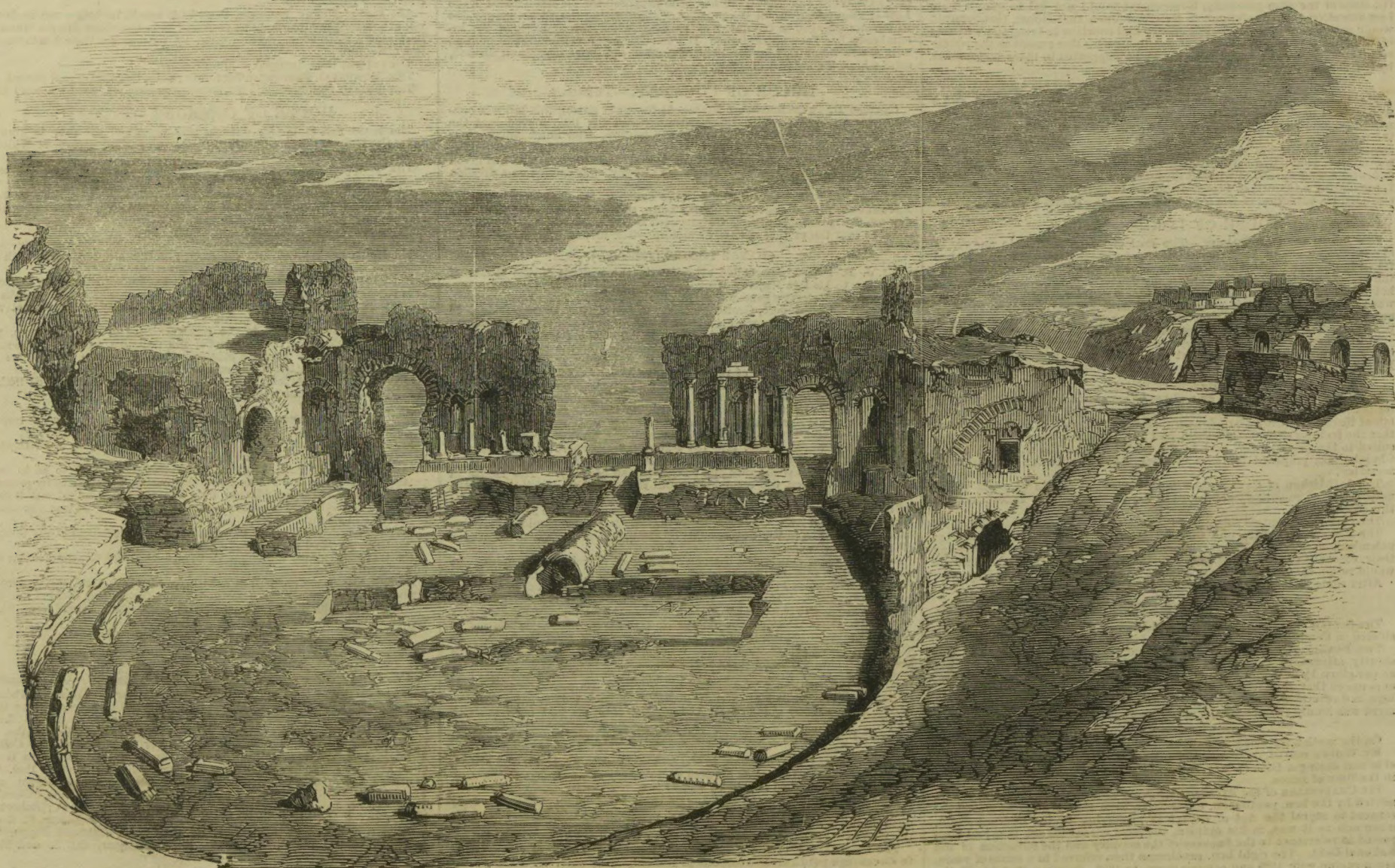
(From a Correspondent.)

At Catania we purchased some coarse, thick, wool stockings and gloves for our intended Etna ascent. It seemed ridiculous to buy such articles, when we could scarcely endure the heat, but we soon found their comfort. We walked to Nicolasi, a small village built on the slope of Etna, and distant about ten miles. We started about half-past two or three p.m., in the heat of the day, but we accomplished the ten miles in two hours and three-quarters. We had a letter of introduction to Signor Gimmellaro, who formerly belonged to the English army, a very intelligent man, and who speaks English tolerably. He is called "the philosopher of Etna." He received us with great kindness, showing us from his chart of the eruptions (published by Wyld) the courses which the various streams of lava have taken. He has also quite a museum of Etna curiosities. We went to an inn for rest and refreshment.

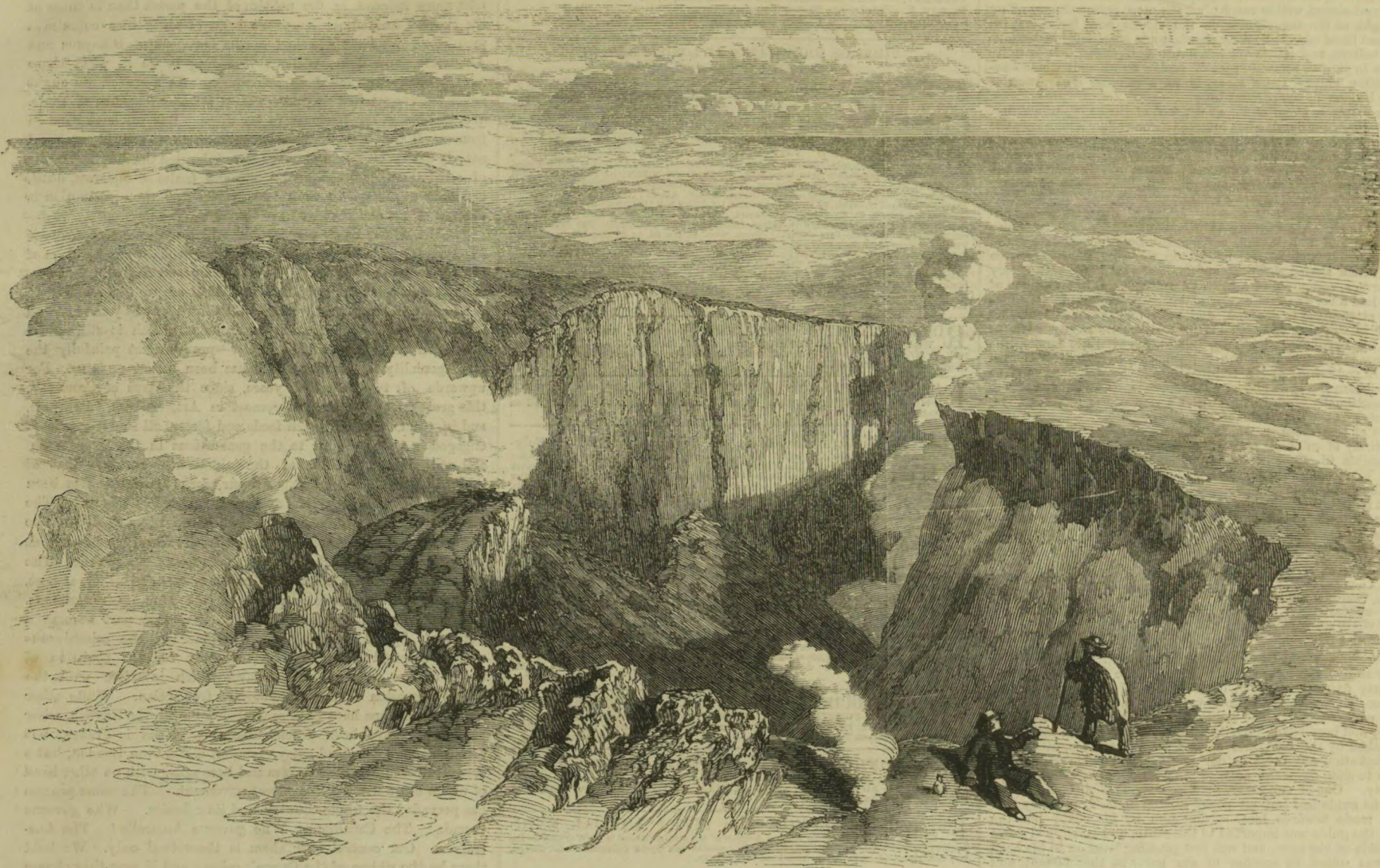
At eight o'clock our guide and mules arrived for our night ascent, the object of which was to see the sun rise from the summit. The moon was shining brightly; and our cavalcade consisted of ourselves and three mules, the guide, with his mule and provisions, and a volunteer assistant. The villagers seemed nearly all to have gone to bed; and the stillness, broken only by an occasional baying of some dog answering dog, added much to the excitement and interest of the first part of our journey. For about an hour we traversed over the black lava, the mules picking their way with wonderful sagacity. We then came to the Regione Sylvosa, a forest of some miles in width, which encircles Etna, and contains trees of an immense size and age. Like Brydone, in 1770, we found the air, from being hot and close, fresh and delightful. Long grass and shrubs covered the ground, and it was quite impossible to discover any appearance of a path. Still on we went, winding and turning, and occasionally being threatened with the fate of Absalom by the overhanging trees. The moon was setting, and casting long and deep shadows far into the

forest. Hitherto there had been sufficient light to let us know that every now and then we were skirting some deep pit, but now this satisfaction was denied. It was a darkness which might be felt. All was silence, save the tramp of our animals, or an occasional stumble on their part. To guide them was impossible; so, throwing the reins on their necks, we wrapped ourselves closely round in our Maltese wrappers, which we now found invaluable, and occasionally dozed as we jogged along in the darkness of the forest. Thus we journeyed for almost eight or nine miles, and then came out to the deserta regione, a vast tract of ashes and lava. The night was fine, and the stars, from the clearness of the atmosphere, seemed comparatively close and much more brilliant than usually seen at a lower elevation.

Under a large rock of lava we encamped for an hour to bait our animals and ourselves, and also to get a little warmth into our limbs. It was now decidedly cold, and we were glad enough to pull on our thick stockings over boots and trousers. The guide and assistant



RUINS OF A THEATRE AT TAUROMINIUM.—MOUNT ETNA IN THE DISTANCE.



THE CRATER OF MOUNT ETNA A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE LATE EARTHQUAKE.

collected some dried wood from the outskirts of the forest, and soon we were seated round a blazing fire, thankful for the heat which it afforded. It was difficult to believe that scarcely six hours had elapsed since we were puffing and panting and perspiring with the heat a few miles distant. Our "wide-awakes" we tied down over our ears, and, what with our brown wrappers, over-stockings, and gloves, which looked more like bears' than human paws, and our Alpenstocks, and the strong lights and deep shadows caused by our fire, we presented rather a striking group. A few streaks of light in the east warned us that we must be up and moving if we would see the sun rise from the summit as the Emperor Adrian and the philosopher Plato had seen it. The cold was now most painful to bear. When we left Catania the thermometer was between 90 and 100 deg., and at Nicolosi, at eight o'clock in the evening, was 74 deg. It had now fallen to 27 deg. After traversing beds of lava for almost an hour, which when we descended by daylight filled us with astonishment that any animal could possibly find its way over,

or keep its legs in doing so, we came to a small house or cottage, built by some English officers in 1814 or 1815. It is built nearly at the foot of the Great Cone. Here we dismounted, and for about five minutes we were endeavouring to regain some sense of feeling in our extremities. Our guide had brought sticks, but there was no fireplace or chimney; and in our attempt to get warmth from the fire, which was lit in the centre of the room we were nearly suffocated. We now prepared for the final tug—the ascent of the cone. Its height is now about 1000 feet. Brydone thus describes it as it was in May, 29, 1777:—"This is of an exact conical figure, and rises equally on all sides. Its circumference cannot be less than ten miles. We found this mountain excessively steep, and covered with snow; but the surface (luckily for us) was spread over with a pretty thick layer of ashes thrown out from the crater. Had it not been for this, we should never have been able to get to the top."

Brydone ascended it May 29, 1777. Our ascent was made Aug. 28, 1857—three months later in the year, the very best time for making

the ascent. The snow had melted from the sides of the cone, but not at the base. It looked like a yellow sugar loaf, with here and there darker shades of the same colour, and occasional patches of black ashes. It was still dark; our mules could go no further. By the aid of a pine-wood torch we clambered over large beds of lava, which were twisted and thrown up in most extraordinary shapes. Crossing these with some difficulty, we came to a large bed of frozen snow. We now began the ascent, and had no longer to complain of cold—our feet sinking into hot sulphur and ashes at every stop. Respiration became difficult, from two causes: we were now almost 10,000 feet above the sea; and the fumes of sulphur which issued from numerous little holes, and from the holes which our feet had made, nearly choked us.

When about halfway up the cone, whilst taking a rest, ashes from above us came tumbling down from the trembling of the cone, and at the same instant a deep underground sound, like very distant thunder, told us unmistakably that Etna was not quite at rest within



THE CONE OF MOUNT ETNA AND THE "ENGLISH HOUSE" (DESTROYED BY THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE).

Immediately after the shock we noticed a fresh stream of sulphur vapour issue out from the sulphur within a foot or two of where we were sitting.

Streaks of light foretold the sun's approach, and we hastened up to the summit—but here all toil was amply repaid. At an elevation of little less than two miles, all Sicily lay at our feet. The "Boat" of Italy, Calabria, the Adriatic, the Lipari Islands, and the Mediterranean, seemed almost within reach; but the most extraordinary effect was the light of the sun shining on the clouds now far below us. They looked like islands floating about, some with lofty mountains and deep valleys, and others quite as flat as a sandbank. It is quite impossible to give an accurate idea of such a scene. Brydons's account, written eighty years since, is an admirable description of what may be seen at the present time.

The thermometer stood at 28° at the foot of the cone—it was not at 40° on the summit; and, when inserted three or four inches into the sulphur on which we were sitting, the mercury rose in a few seconds to 170°. The sun was fairly above the horizon, and we now watched the shadow of the mountain stretching across the island. As the sun rose the shadow shortened, and presented the shape of a cone slightly curved on one side (see *Sketch*).

Before us and beneath us was the crater of Etna. The circumference of the crater, according to Sig. Gimmellaro, was from two to two miles and a half, and surrounded by precipitous cliffs of from 200 to 300 feet in height, except on the side where we were standing, which sloped down at an angle of about 30°, with a very smooth surface, composed of ashes and sulphur. Down this one of our party had a very narrow escape of being precipitated. His feet slipped in attempting to descend, and with very great difficulty he succeeded in stopping himself. We could see no cavity such as described by Brydons and others, but clouds of white smoke, like steam, came rolling up from the bottom, which was covered with large stones and ashes, and a red-looking earth, which seemed to have rolled from the cliffs above. The appearance and shape of the crater is continually changing. We give a view of the crater in 1899, from a sketch in the possession of Sig. Gimmellaro.

The part of the crater on which we were standing was composed almost entirely of sulphur, and in some places it was so hot that it was impossible to stand in the same spot for more than a few seconds. With ease we pushed our Alpenstocks down three or four feet into the sulphur.

Here, it is said, Empedocles, the philosopher, destroyed himself by jumping into the crater (B.C. 400). The height of Etna is now ascertained to be 10,874 feet. The following comparative statements of temperature may not be uninteresting:—

MAY 30, 1770 (BRYDONS).		AUGUST 28, 1857.	
At Catania—midday	6°	90° to 100°.	
Nicolosi, twelve miles up the mountain—midday	78°	74° (eight at night).	
At the foot of the crater of Etna	33°	28°	
On the summit, a little before sunrise	27°	40°—and in the ashes, 179°	

After remaining about two hours on the summit our guide led us to another side of the cone to descend; and here the guide and two of our party narrowly escaped destruction. The side we had ascended was, as previously stated, very soft, and we anticipated a quick and easy descent. The guide, however, took us to the windward side; and here the sulphur and ashes had been wet with rain, and had caked by the heat into a hard, smooth surface, into which we could not stick our poles or our heels. The guide tripped up, and began to slide down the cone on his back with fearfully-increasing rapidity. One of our party, at a considerable distance below, saw that the guide had lost all power to stop himself, and very courageously made towards him, seizing him by his coat; but the motion of the guide was imparted to the other, and he slipped down the steep side of the cone, and was just pitching over on to his head when he was seized by another of our party at that instant, and saved. The depth to which they must have rolled was about 600 feet, and at the bottom of the cone are huge blocks of lava, against which they must have been dashed.

By exercising great care we arrived at the "English House" without further accident, and, mounting our mules, we arrived in safety at Nicolosi about twelve o'clock, and after a couple of hours' rest we walked down to Catania, arriving about six o'clock in the evening, having made the ascent of Etna from Catania and back—a distance of about fifty miles (twenty-four of which we walked)—in about twenty-seven hours.

Since our visit to Etna we have received the following account of an earthquake upon the cone from Signor Gimmellaro, which occurred a short time after we were there:—

NICOLOSI, UPON ETNA, 12th Dec., 1857.

"A violent earthquake has occurred upon the high cone of Etna since you visited it; it threw down, with a tremendous noise, within the abyss of the great crater half of the mass of the cone; and such a quantity of matter falling down, the compressed air, regaining its elasticity, blew out of the principal crater with great violence, in the form of the densest smoke, all those ashes and sand, mingled with the scorie, with which the cone was raised up long ago; and this dusty smoke, carried through the atmosphere, was thence driven by the north-west wind as far as Aci, Catania, and the neighbouring villages in considerable quantities, which gave rise to the suspicion that there was an eruption; but such was not the case. By this occurrence the height of the cone was reduced some fifty feet, and the diameter of the large crater increased one quarter.

"The earthquake referred to destroyed also part of the Casa Inglese (English house) at the foot of the cone, partly by the force of the wind, rain and snow. This will be an unpleasant accident for travellers."

ROYAL COMMISSION ON TOLL REFORM.—Her Majesty has, in accordance with an address presented by the House of Commons, appointed a Royal Commission for the purpose of inquiring into the expediency of removing all toll-gates within six miles of Charing-cross. The Commissioners appointed are the Right Hon. Sir J. Coleridge, Lord Eversley (late Speaker of the House of Commons), the Hon. Colonel Gordon Douglas Pennant, M.P., and Mr. William Battie Wrightson, M.P. This commission is issued in pursuance of the vote of the House of Commons, on the motion of the Hon. George Byng, M.P., made at the instance of the Metropolitan Toll Reform Association, of which Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., is chairman, and Mr. J. E. Bradfield honorary secretary, and which has been for some time past agitating the abolition of the gates near London.—Lord Elcho, adopting the same course, has withdrawn his bill to remove tolls on the Scottish roads, and given notice of a motion in the House of Commons for a Royal Commission for Scotland.

THE NEW COMMISSION ON EDUCATION.—The Queen has directed letters patent to be passed under the great seal, appointing the Most Noble Henry Pelham, Duke of Newcastle; the Right Hon. Sir John Taylor Coleridge, Knt.; the Rev. William Charles Lake, M.A.; the Rev. William Rogers, M.A.; Goldwin Smith, Esq., M.A.; Nassau William Senior, Esq., M.A.; and Edward Miall, Esq., to be her Majesty's commissioners to inquire into the present state of popular education in England, and to consider and report what measures (if any) are required for the extension of sound and cheap elementary instruction to all classes of the people.

SOLDIERS' DAUGHTERS' HOME.—(From a Correspondent.)—In the account given of the opening of the Soldiers' Daughters' Home by the Prince Consort in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 26th June, it is inadvertently stated that this charity is "the only asylum in the kingdom for the daughters of the army." Permit me, as Life Governor to both institutions, to call your attention to the establishment at Devonport called the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, which was founded in 1839, "for the female orphans of soldiers and sailors, especially of those losing their lives in the public service."

THE BOY'S BOOK OF INDUSTRIAL INFORMATION.—This work, by Eliza Noyce, with 365 illustrations by the Brothers Dalziel, is calculated to do much good. The object is not only to please, but to instruct; and, although written ostensibly for the young, it may be read with advantage by all who desire to possess a knowledge of things in everyday use. The author begins with a description of natural products, embracing earths, metals and alloys, coal, stone, wood, &c. The second division is devoted to manufactured products, such as sugar, soap, tar, gas, paper, and a host of other things; then follow the products of skilled labour, arts, processes, apparatus, machinery, and engineering works. The information throughout is conveyed in a clear and understandable form; this, combined with pictures on every page, is well calculated to assist those who are about many objects that as a rule they know nothing of, and this of itself would make it a valuable work. The numerous works written for the information and guidance of the rising generation. The book is published by Ward and Lock.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, July 4.—Fifth Sunday after Trinity. Moon's last quarter, 6h. 44m., [a.m.]
 MONDAY, 5.—Sir H. Lawrence died, 1857.
 TUESDAY, 6.—Cambridge Commencement and Oxford Act.
 WEDNESDAY, 7.—Thomas à Becket. Sun rises, 3h. 53m.; sets, 8h. 15m.
 THURSDAY, 8.—Fire Insurance due. Burke died, 1797.
 FRIDAY, 9.—Cambridge Easter Term ends.
 SATURDAY, 10.—Oxford Trinity Term ends. New Moon, 9h. 24m., p.m.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 10, 1853.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
7 6	7 29	7 55	8 23	8 57	9 30	10 0
10 33	11 11	11 45	—	0 19	0 51	1 21

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Titians, Albani, Spezia, Ortolan, Piccolomini, Belletti, Violelli, Beneventano, Rossi, Aldighieri, and Giuglini. The following arrangements have been made:—THE LAST MORNING PERFORMANCE, MONDAY, JULY 5, with the following combined attraction:—LUCREZIA BORGIA. Lucrezia Borgia, Mdlle. Titians; Maffeo Orsini, Mdlme. Albani; Gennaro, Sig. Giuglini. Lucrezia's admired Operetta, in One Act, entitled LA SERVA PADRONA (as presented with the greatest success at M. Benedict's Concert). Sorpina, Mdlle. Piccolomini; Uberto, Sig. Rossi; with a Favourite Ballet, with Mdlme. Rossi and Mdlle. Piccolini. The Performance commences at Half-past One o'clock. Boxes, from £1 11s. 6d. to £5 5s.; Pit Stalls, 21s.; Pit and Gallery Stalls, 5s.; Gallery, 2s. 6d. TUESDAY, JULY 6, Last Night but Three of the Subscription, will be revived Verdi's Opera, NINO (Nabuco). Abigail, Mdlle. Spezia, her First Appearance this Season. THURSDAY, JULY 8, Last Extra Night but One, DON GIOVANNI SATURDAY, JULY 10, Last Night but Two of the Subscription, will be presented (first time this season), BALLO OPERA, LA ZINGARA. On each occasion a favourite Ballet, with Mdlme. Rossi and Mdlle. Piccolini. Applications to be made at the Box-office, at the Theatre.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday and during the Week will be presented Shakespeare's Play of THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. Shylock, by Mr. C. Kean; Portia, by Mrs. C. Kean. Preceded by the New Farce, in one act, entitled DYING FOR LOVE.

LAST NIGHTS OF MONT BLANC.—Mr. ALBERT SMITH'S VESUVIUS, NAPLES, POMPEII, and MONT BLANC, will CLOSURE on TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 6th.

SIMS REEVES, Mdlle. Maria de Villar, the London Poly-hymnian Choir, the Orchestral Society, at the Grand Vocal and Instrumental CONCERT, ST. MARTIN'S HALL, WEDNESDAY, JULY 7. Conductor, Mr. William Reeve. Mr. Sims Reeves will sing "Adelaide" (Reethoven), "Frieda, dearest" (Haton), new ballad, "I have not gold" (Thorpe Poed), "Tickets, 1s.; reserved seats, 2s.; stalls (numbered), 3s.—at the Hall; of Cocks and Co., New Burlington-street; Levesque and Edwards, 63, Fleet-street; and Turner, 19, Poultry. Commence at eight.

CRYSTAL PALACE, FRIDAY JULY 16.—GRAND FESTIVAL CONCERT, under the direction of M. BENEDICT, in the large Handel Orchestra. The following eminent artists have already accepted engagements:—Mdlme. Lemmens Sherrington and Miss Louisa Pyne, Mdlme. Weiss and Miss Dolby, Herr Desk, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Sims Reeves. The Band, including 40 first violins, 40 second violins, 25 altos, 25 violoncellos, and 25 double basses (with equal proportion of wind instruments), will number upwards of 200 performers, and be composed of the elite of the profession. The Choirs, including the Vocal Association, will number 800 vocalists; being a total of 1000 performers. In the course of the Concert Bach's triple Concerto for three Pianofortes, and Maurer's new Concertante for six principal Violins (so favourably received at M. Benedict's Concert at Her Majesty's Theatre) will be performed for the first time at the Crystal Palace, by the most distinguished artists, whose names will be duly announced. Conductors, M. Benedict and Mr. Manna. Price of tickets, 2s. 6d. until Wednesday, the 14th of July; after that date the price will be 5s. Season-ticket holders have the right of admission on the occasion.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. The TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN at their GALLERY, 53, Pall-mall (near St. James's Palace), from Nine till dusk daily.—Admission, 1s.; Season Ticket, 5s. JAMES FAHRY, Secretary.

ROSA BONHEUR'S NEW PICTURES, "Landais Peasants Going to Market," and "Morning in the Highlands," together with her Portrait, by Ed. Dubouffe, are NOW ON VIEW at the GERMAN GALLERY, 163, New Bond-street. Admission, 1s.—Open from Nine till Six.

FRENCH EXHIBITION.—The FIFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of PICTURES by Modern Artists of the French School is NOW OPEN to the Public at the French Gallery, 121, Pall-mall, opposite the Opera Colonnade. Admission, 1s.; catalogues, 6d. each. Open from Nine to Six daily.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

NOTWITHSTANDING the large size of the Ordinary Number and Supplement of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS (consisting of Twenty-four pages), it is found impossible to fully illustrate passing events without occasionally issuing extra Numbers for that purpose. But, to suit the convenience of Subscribers abroad and in the provinces in paying their subscriptions for this Journal, it has been determined that, for the future, no more than two Double Numbers with Coloured Supplements shall be charged for during each half-year. All other EXTRA NUMBERS that it may be found necessary to issue will be presented GRATIS to Subscribers. The subscription to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, therefore, will be as follows:—

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THE SPLENDID COLOURED ENGRAVINGS OF WARWICK CASTLE and ASTON HALL are presented to all Purchasers of the Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for this week.

This Number begins a New Volume, and the present time is an excellent opportunity for the commencement of New Subscriptions.

* * The Title-page and Index of Vol. XXXII. will be given Next Week.

An illustration of the Colleshill Annual Mowing and Shearing, and the Flower Show will appear in this Journal of Saturday next.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1853.

To conquer India is an achievement which, though grand, has not been difficult, for it has been congenial to the spirit and character of a race who have possessions on every continent, in every sea, and in every clime; and who boast that the sun never sets on their dominion. But to retain India may prove to be a task not quite so easy, even to this invincible people. Fate and the force of circumstances, rather than our own intention, working to a preconceived end, have presented us with an enormous White Elephant. To house and to feed it is an inconvenient expense. To let it loose may be destruction to itself and to us. To govern it is a vexation and a nuisance. But the Beast is ours, and we have to retain and guard it. How to do it? That is the present, and threatens long to be, the great question of our age.

If the whole adult population of the British Isles could have, in any one period since the battle of Plassey, their verdict could have been taken on the question—Shall we annex the whole or part of India to our empire?—shall we depose Nawabs, Kings, Emperors, and the Great Mogul—shall we assume the responsibility of governing one hundred and fifty millions of Asiatics, of different race, character, intellect, and

faith to our own?—the answer, no one can doubt, would have been an emphatic, if not indignant, negative. Yet, by slow degrees, by the aggressive spirit of the men whom we have sent abroad to administer in our name, and by the stolid apathy or cold indifference of the people at home, who for the most part take more interest in the politics of the parish than in those of the Empire, and whose ignorance even of their own colonies is proverbial, we have marched in the footsteps of Dionysus and Alexander, and done, without intending to do it, what those mighty conquerors failed to accomplish. As a nation we ought never to have set foot in India, except for the purposes of trade. We had no other business to be there. But we have gone on from small and little-understood beginnings of evil, to great and utterly unexpected results. We have inherited the sins and faults of our fathers, and committed sins and faults of our own, until, suddenly awakened to consciousness, we find that retribution is exacted of us, and that we have to pay the penalty.

The little and easily-manageable white mouse of the days of Plassey, has grown into the great White Elephant of the days of Cawnpore and Lucknow. The beast is proud and wild, and considers our touch to be profanation. What are we to do with it?

The fate of the successive India bills introduced by the last and by the present Administration—and one of which is still under discussion and likely to become law—proves most painfully the uncongeniality of the task which has been thrust upon us. For upwards of two hundred years, since the days of Cromwell, this great people—first and foremost in Art, Science, Literature, and in the Commerce which feeds and fosters all these—has been engaged in a project dear to the generations in the seventeenth and still dearer to those of the nineteenth century—that of minimising its Government. All our recent legislation has been specially imbued with this spirit and devoted to this end. The prerogative of the Sovereign has been reduced to a shadow. The occupant of the most splendid throne in the world has become, *de facto*, the hereditary President of a democratic Republic. The power of the feudal aristocracy has become nominal, or, at best, secondary to the superior power of the House of Commons. The Palace of Legislation has for the most part become a Court of Appeal against the continuance of the mischievous over-government of past times, a court for the abolition of those unwise and antiquated laws which interfere with the fullest expansion of the principles of free action. While other European nations have been centralising Power, the English, wiser than they, have been decentralising it. Paris is France, but London is not England; nay, London is not even London, but a congeries of independent cities and boroughs, with no other bond of union but a name and a street pavement. The same process has pervaded the whole country and its colonies. Who governs Canada? The Canadians. Who governs Australia? The Australians. Our control over them is theoretical only. We hold them by the ribbon of the Queen's robes; and if ever they choose to sever that frail and graceful connection, there will be none to say them nay.

So weak has the principle of government become amongst us, both nationally and municipally, that there are men who are often tempted to wish for the establishment of a temporary despotism in the capital and elsewhere, in order that, by the strong will of some benevolent tyrant, our streets and rivers may be freed from the plague, in despite of the apathy of the people, and of the interested opposition of manufacturers and traders, who pollute a tidal river with the refuse of their gas-works, their soap boileries, and their slaughter-houses. The arm of authority has been weakened year after year, and the £10 householders, and those who flatter or bribe them, have so diluted it, that Government, as some nations understand the word, can scarcely be said to exist among us for any active purpose.

While such is the condition of Great Britain, and while such promises to be its condition for a future whose limits no one can presume to define, the people, through their representatives in Parliament, are suddenly called upon by the rebellion in India to undertake a task of a totally opposite character. The House of Commons, which loves to minimise Government at home, is compelled by dire necessity to maximise Government in India. Nothing but a despotism is possible for that country under present circumstances. It may be a despotism as enlightened as can be imagined by the wit of man, but a despotism it must be. The old despotism of the East India Company—not despotic, or at all events not wise and strong enough to prevent the outbreak and growth of the most formidable rebellion recorded in history—has, by almost universal consent, been ordered to give place to another kind of authority, to be exercised in the name of the constitutional Queen of England. We must either make a colony or a dependency of India. We cannot make a colony of it, for a colony grows out of a wilderness; and India is occupied by a hundred and fifty millions of people, ingenious, laborious, and of an ancient civilisation. If not a colony, it must be a dependency, to be held by the right of conquest. We cannot exterminate the Black Indians of the East as the men of our blood have exterminated the Red Indians of the West. The Black Indians are too multitudinous for that process, even if humanity and Christianity did not object to the monstrous guilt of such murder. We cannot amalgamate with them, for amalgamation with a different race is alien to the spirit and instincts of men of Anglo-Scandinavian blood; and, even if we could, the few hundreds of thousands of our people who would lend themselves to the process would be but as drops in the great tide of Indian population.

What, then, remains? Are we to hold by the sword what we have won by the sword; to govern England on the principles of Liberty, but to deny to the Hindoos and Mahometans the rights for which in our own persons we are prepared to die; to make our monarchy double-faced as Janus—looking on England with the smiling countenance of Peace, on India with the bloodshot eyes and scowling visage of War?

Can the English Parliament, speaking for the English people, so decree? The difficulty shows itself at the very threshold of the discussion. Our free House of Parliament loses itself the moment it debates on the principles and forms of the old despotism to be demolished and of the new despotism to be built up. India Bill Number 3, even if it becomes law, will be as much

of a failure as India Bills Numbers 1 and 2. At best it will be a compromise and a procrastination. The sword will be the real despot and governor of India for years to come, however zealously we at home may continue to debate upon the desirability of a more equitable and less savage mode of retaining possession. But is it not clear that if we rule by the sword, however humanely we may wield it, and however earnestly we may strive to improve the physical and moral condition of the people, that we shall never earn their love or even their gratitude? Is it not natural that they should hate us, and that they should continue to hate us until the day when they shall imagine themselves the stronger of the two, and make another effort to get rid of us?

To be forcibly expelled from India would be the first step to the ruin of Great Britain; and certain are we that there is not one inhabitant of these isles—a few hundred sectaries in religion excepted—who would not strain every nerve, make every sacrifice, and consent to any amount of hardship—personal and national—to prevent so fatal a catastrophe. But if we are to practice the principles we preach; if we are to spare ourselves the enormous and increasing expenditure of blood and money necessary for the permanent retention of India as a conquered province; we must bethink ourselves—when we have thoroughly subdued the rebels, and proved to every Hindoo and Mussulman in India the superiority of our might and the splendour of our supremacy—whether, as a nation, we should not do better to wash our hands of such an unnatural responsibility, and allow India some share in its own government. No doubt such a task will be difficult; but to hold the country by the sword will be quite as perplexing. When we have subdued Oude, let us disannex it upon conditions. When we are undisputed masters, let us give some degree of liberty to States which it is inconvenient to retain. Let us gradually accustom the natives to self-government, and minimise our rule till it ceases to be felt. An opposite course of policy may succeed for a time; but it will, we think, cost more than it is worth.

The remarkable imposture known as Mormonism has entered upon a new era in its history. Brigham Young, who a few months ago spoke so valiantly of confronting the whole power and authority of the United States in defence of the Salt Lake Valley and of the religion therein established, has taken prudent counsel, and resolved to vacate the territory. The result has been for some time anticipated; but whether the "Prophet" would favour the Mexican or the British territory with his presence was doubtful. The most recent accounts would lead us to believe that a portion of the Mexican province of Sonora has been selected as the new home of the Saints; although it would not surprise us to learn that the Mormons—more than one-half of whom are natives of the British isles—have directed their emigration to Vancouver's Island. If they have gone to Mexico, Brigham Young or his successors may found a State as well as a religion; but, if they betake themselves to Vancouver's Island, the Prophet will be a Dissenting preacher—nothing more—and must yield allegiance to the British Government. It is most probable, for this reason, that a Mexican province has been chosen for the site of the New Zion, and that Brigham Young has exchanged the hostility of the United States for that of the Mexicans, Indians, and half-breeds. Against the United States he had but little chance, while, as regards his Mexican opponents, he will doubtless be enabled to hold his own, with the advantage of exchanging the comparatively barren land of Deseret or Utah for the fertile regions of the South. Hitherto the Mormons, like all other religious sects, have thriven upon opposition and persecution. Their expulsion from Jackson county enabled them to build Nauvoo. Their heira from Nauvoo led to their possession of Deseret, to the establishment of the Salt Lake City, and to their growth in numbers, wealth, and importance. In like manner their second heira and exodus from the Salt Lake will, in all probability, give a new impetus to their delusion, and bring them recruits and converts. However base and degrading their faith may be—however immoral the practices of their chiefs, apostles, and elders—there is no denying that the Mormons possess one quality in common with other Britons and Americans, and which all Britons and Americans admire—pluck; and that in the most trying circumstances they show remarkable energy, and exhibit the most admirable self-possession, endurance, and daring. The history of their flight to the city of the Salt Lake was like a page torn from the annals of the heroic ages. The flight from the city of the Salt Lake bids fair to assume even more gigantic proportions, and to stand out in the history of what is erroneously called our dull and prosaic age, in the bright colours of romance. That so many thousands of people should share this fanaticism; that at the command of this false prophet they should leave their houses, their barns, their fields, their workshops, and start into the wilderness—they know not exactly whither—with their harms, their wives, and their children—with their implements of husbandry and their mechanical tools, with their seed-corn and their waggons, with their horses and their cattle, and all the long train of provision necessary for the subsistence of such a multitude—may well excite the wonder if not the sympathy of the world. The accounts received of their movements are, as yet, confused and contradictory, but the great fact of their flight seems to be thoroughly established.

THE REVENUE.

	The Year ended June 30, 1858.			Quarter ended June 30, 1858.		
	Net Revenue.	Increase.	Decrease.	Net Revenue.	Increase.	Decrease.
Customs ..	22,888,790	..	707,071	5,879,099	..	22,810
Excise ..	17,944,000	277,000	..	4,096,000	110,000	..
Stamps ..	7,619,300	284,000	..	2,084,370	280,000	..
Taxes ..	3,151,000	37,000	..	1,229,000	2,000	..
Property-tax ..	10,329,100	..	8,800,000	1,100,000	1,200,000	..
Post-office ..	3,010,100	100,000	..	700,000	80,000	..
Crown Lands ..	270,000	..	8,000	60,000	..	..
Miscellaneous ..	1,070,470	610,000	..	300,000	70,000	..
Total ..	60,879,710	1,420,000	6,614,000	16,279,000	524,000	1,520,000
	15,188,100	..	..	4,001,700	..	..
	Net Revenue.	..	..	Net Revenue.	..	..

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S CORONATION.—The anniversary of her Majesty's coronation, on Monday, was observed with the usual demonstrations of loyalty. Shortly after seven the bells of the metropolitan and suburban churches rang forth merrily, and at eight o'clock the Royal standard was hoisted at the Tower, Somerset House, the Admiralty, General Post-office, and on the towers of the parish churches of St. John's and St. Margaret's, Westminster, St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, and St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The troops paraded in the front of the Horse Guards; salutes were fired from the park guns, and from those at the Tower, Woolwich, and Tilbury Fort. The river and the docks appeared very gay, the shipping being dressed with the flags of various nations.

VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO THE GREAT SHIP.—The Queen, accompanied by the Prince Consort, his Majesty the King of the Belgians, the Duke and Duchess of Brabant, the Count of Flanders, Princess Alice, Princess Helena, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal household, paid a visit on Monday afternoon to the great steam-ship, moored in the river off Deptford, and remained on board a considerable time inspecting her extraordinary proportions. This ship, it is stated, is no longer to be called the *Leviathan*; she is to resume her original name—the *Great Eastern*. She has been registered in that name—William Harrison, master. Her Majesty's visit to the ship was strictly private. With the exception of two of the Admiralty's ladies attending to superintend the Queen's embarkation from Deptford dockyard, there was no display whatever. Mr. Hope, M.P., the chairman, and several of the directors of the company, Mr. Yates, the secretary, Mr. Hepworth, and Mr. Trotman, received the Royal party on board, and had the honour of conducting them over the ship. Her Majesty, on leaving, expressed her great delight at the visit.

A TESTIMONIAL FROM ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LONDON.—Including many of the most prominent bankers and merchants, was on Wednesday presented to their late member, Mr. John Masterman. The sum of £1500 was raised for the purpose, and the money, under the direction of the committee, has been applied in the following manner:—A comparatively small sum has been expended in the purchase of a magnificent candelabrum, manufactured by Messrs. Storr and Mortimer, of Bond-street, and the balance in hand to the foundation of a scholarship in the City of London School, to be called "The Masterman Scholarship."

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AND AT KING'S COLLEGE.—The first under the presidency of Sir G. C. Lewis—the other under that of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The proceedings revealed a very satisfactory state of things in these two great educational institutions. Dr. Jeff, the Principal at King's College, in the course of his address, mentioned with pride that among the first Chinese scholars sent out by the Government were King's College men, and at the present time the interpreter for Commissioner Yeh had been one of his students.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.—The annual examination of the girls' schools, Borough-road, was held on Wednesday. The Earl of Carlisle presided, and at the close addressed the meeting, and the children and teachers. After referring to the high satisfaction which the examination must have afforded to all present, his Lordship alluded in strong terms of approbation to the range and definiteness of the Scriptural knowledge possessed by the children, to the excellence of the reading, and to the attention given to subjects connected with domestic economy.

THE LADY MAYOR'S CARDS OF INVITATION TO AN "AT HOME."—to a large number of the nobility, the corps diplomatique, the members of the House of Commons, the Corporation, and private friends, for Wednesday next, the 7th inst.

EAST INDIA HOUSE.—At a meeting of the East India Proprietors held on Wednesday Mr. Jones brought on his motion for the restoration of Oude to its rightful owners. He reviewed the history of our relations with that country, showing how largely we had profited by it, and argued that any alteration in its form of government, or the transference of the rule to us, were questions for the people of Oude themselves to determine. Mr. Helle moved the previous question, but no vote was taken, as Mr. Jones was ultimately counted out.

EARLY BIBLES AND THEOLOGY.—A most important collection of black letter editions of the Holy Scriptures, liturgies, and early theological literature, forming a portion of the valuable library of an eminent Irish dignitary of the Church, was brought to the hammer by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson on Friday week, and produced very high prices. The great attraction of the sale was a copy of the first Latin Bible, supposed to have been printed at Mentz between the years 1450 and 1455, and executed to resemble a manuscript, for which the typographer, no doubt, intended to sell each copy. This marvellous specimen of early printing was purchased by Mr. Quaritch, of Castle-street, for £500, being £400 more than this copy sold for at the sale of his Royal Highness, the late Duke of Sussex.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' SCHOOLS.—The annual gathering of the numerous friends and supporters of the Commercial Travellers' Schools at Pinner, to hear the boys and girls carefully examined in the different branches of their education, took place on Saturday last. The school at Pinner is a finer building than many a first-class university. It stands in twenty-five acres of its own grounds, which, besides affording ample playground, supplies that invaluable addition to the youthful dietary, an abundance of fresh and wholesome vegetables. The number of children cared for fluctuates between 100 and 200. The examination was carried on in the boys' school-room, under the patronage of Lord Ebury, and was most efficiently conducted by the Rev. R. Fowler, M.A., Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, and Mathematical Master in the Tunbridge Grammar School. The subjects comprised religious instruction, English grammar, Latin (elementary), French, geography, history (of England), with a sketch of the history of British India, arithmetic, and Euclid. After the examination Lord Ebury addressed the boys in a suitable speech, and the day's business closed with a luncheon.

ASYLUM FOR FEMALE ORPHANS.—On Tuesday morning an interesting ceremony took place at the Asylum for Female Orphans, Westminster-road. There was a general meeting of the orphans brought up in the asylum for the purpose of offering up a centenary thanksgiving. The chapel was crowded mostly with young people, to whom an impressive address was delivered by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Afterwards the orphans dined in public in the grounds of the institution. It was announced that her Majesty had intimated her intention of becoming the patroness of a sale of plain and fancy needlework, which is to take place on Wednesday, July 7th, for the benefit of the asylum.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, BROMPTON.—On Sunday the claims of this valuable institution were most ably advocated by the Lord Bishop of Limerick, who preached an eloquent sermon in the chapel of the hospital at Brompton. The beautiful chapel was thrown open to the public on this occasion, and a numerous congregation attended. At the conclusion of the service his Lordship's eloquent appeal was responded to by a liberal collection, including the handsome donation of £50 from John Hardy, Esq., of Grafton-street. A sermon was also preached at St. James's Chapel, York-street, St. James's, by the Rev. Thomas Beames, M.A., in aid of the funds, and a liberal collection was made.

THE STATE OF THE RIVER THAMES.—Vigorous measures have at length been taken to check, if possible, the noxious effluvia arising from the Thames. A parliamentary committee has been sitting on the subject; and, by direction of the Government, from 200 to 250 tons of lime are every day discharged into the Thames, near the mouths of the sewers—involving an expenditure of £1500 a week. Men have also been engaged during the period of low water in covering both banks with lime. The Metropolitan Board of Works appears to be on the point of practical action. It held a special meeting on Tuesday, to grapple with the river difficulty; and a resolution was adopted to give the Chairman full power to undertake deodorising measures as a temporary expedient, but the expense incurred is to be reported from time to time. Afterwards a large string of resolutions was proposed on the drainage question, and a large string of amendments in opposition to the resolutions. The resolutions adopted that the plan of Messrs. Bidder, Hawley, and Bazalgette should be adopted, with certain alterations, relative to embankments and deodorisation. The opposition motion to this was lost by 11 to 24. Other opposition motions followed, but at last the resolutions were finally carried, 23 voting for them and 8 against.

GREAT FIRE IN THE LONDON DOCKS.—A terrific conflagration burst out about midday on Tuesday in the South Stack warehouse, in the London Docks—a range of brick buildings of considerable length and depth, five stories high. Although termed one warehouse, it had numerous divisions, each being separated by three-foot party walls, with a communication through every floor, by doorways protected by iron gates. The whole of them were crammed with merchandise of various descriptions to the value of between two and three millions, and the property of various brokers and merchants. At about twenty minutes past one, a very loud explosion took place, succeeded by another still louder. A cry was raised, "It is the salt-petre." The sudden explosion of a vivid white flame from the division which preceded the shock confirmed in a measure the fears of the dock workpeople. A general movement of all near along the quays had just commenced, when three tremendous explosions occurred. The effect was appalling. An immense sheet of fire shot almost half way across the basin, and the heavy concussion that shook the earth led to a belief that the whole range of the South Stack was coming down. The centre division was blown to atoms. The front and back walls, of great thickness, were thrown outwards and fell, that at the rear on to some shed stores near the Wapping basin. The flames were mastered about six o'clock, but not until immense stores and property had been destroyed.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Last week the births of 823 boys and 839 girls, in all 1662 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57 the average number was 1525. The deaths in London last week were 1092. In the ten years 1848-57 the average number of deaths was 984.

COUNTRY NEWS.

PRESENTATION OF NEW COLOURS.—The ceremony of presenting a set of new colours to the 1st or Chatham Division of Royal Marine Light Infantry took place on Monday morning in the presence of a large number of spectators. The entire battalion of the division, numbering upwards of six hundred strong, assembled on their parade-ground at twelve o'clock, under the command of Colonel W. H. Parke, the commandant of the division. The old colours of the division were presented by his late Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, in the year 1827, at which time he was Lord High Admiral. The old colours were on Monday borne to the front of the division for the last time by Second Lieutenants H. J. Pascoe and H. M. Kay, being guarded by a colour-guard of one hundred men, under the command of Captain E. S. Browne, the senior captain of the division. Shortly after twelve o'clock Vice-Admiral of the Red E. Harvey, Commander-in-Chief at the Nore, accompanied by Major-General S. R. Wesley, Deputy Adjutant-General, Royal Marines, with Captain G. Goldsmith, C.B., Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard, arrived on the parade-ground, and was received with a general salute. The old colours were then advanced to the front and saluted by the entire division, after which they were marched off the ground, the band playing "Should ald acquaintance." After the new colours had been unfurled and laid across the drums, the ceremony of what is termed "consecrating" them was performed by the Rev. Allen Fielding, M.A., Chaplain of Chatham Dockyard. Admiral Harvey then took the colours and handed them to First Lieutenants C. Stark and P. S. Boxer, briefly remarking that he felt highly honoured in being deputed by the Lords of the Admiralty to present the new colours to so distinguished a corps, who would, he was sure, make it their pride to keep them unsullied. The colours were then saluted by the entire battalion, and trooped with the band and guard, after which the ceremony ended, and the battalion was dismissed. The old colours will be taken to Greenwich Hospital where they will be preserved.

WINDSOR ROYAL ASSOCIATION.—On Saturday last the eighth anniversary of this association was celebrated in the Horse Park, Windsor. Prince Albert distributed the prizes, which consisted of small sums of money, from £3 to 2s. 6d., to various deserving labourers and their wives. After the distribution the recipients, to the number of 230, dined in a tent; and the committee and a large party, presided over by Mr. Van de Weyer, the Belgian Minister, and consisting of the borough members, Colonel Sir C. Phippe, Colonel Wood, the Dean of Windsor, and most of the clergy of the neighbourhood, dined together in the Townhall, Windsor.

DINNER TO SIR JOHN RATCLIFF.—It is stated to be the intention of some of the leading gentlemen of Birmingham to testify their sense of the liberality of Sir John Ratcliff by giving a public dinner to his worship. This will be a suitable way of testifying the town's appreciation of the honour and benefit conferred upon it during the present mayoralty.

ASTON HALL AND PARK.—We have received a letter signed by the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the Hon. Secretary of the late Aston Fête Committee, impugning the accuracy of some of the statements contained in our notice of Aston Hall and Park in the number for 12th June. Their letter commences thus:—"As the originators of the movement for the purchase of Aston Hall and Park, permit us, for truth's sake, to correct some remarks that appeared in your notice of Aston Hall of the 12th June last, so far as they concern the late Aston Fête Committee. There are a number of mistakes which it is not our business to correct; but you observe that £1200 was paid over by our committee to each hospital. The fact is, that the sum paid over to the two hospitals is from the two fees, from all claims, was £2054 12s. 4d." As a matter of justice we have allowed the late Aston Fête Committee to set themselves right with the public, by giving their own version of this matter of fact; but we must declining giving insertion to the remainder of their letter, occupied as it is by strictures on the conduct of the present managers, the insertion of which would probably involve us in an angry and useless controversy.

THE EAST NORFOLK ELECTION. which took place on Tuesday, at Norwich, resulted in the return of Mr. Coke.

GREAT MASONIC DEMONSTRATION IN EDINBURGH.—On Thursday week the laying of the foundation-stone of the Freemasons' Hall of Scotland, in George-street, was made the occasion of one of the greatest masonic demonstrations, both in pomp and extent, that have taken place in Edinburgh for a long series of years. Delegates from the Grand Lodge of England, Ireland attended; and few of the provincial lodges of Scotland, except perhaps those very far north, were unrepresented. It is calculated that upwards of four thousand of the mystic brethren took part in the proceedings; and the display of jewels, banners, and other insignia of the order, was very profuse and brilliant.

A MIRAGE.—One day last week, says the *Durham Advertiser*, that curious atmospheric phenomenon, a mirage, was observed from the village of Seaton. Several vessels, before they were visible on the horizon, were seen reflected in the heavens.

RIOT AT WOLVERHAMPTON.—It having been announced that a person would on Tuesday night give a lecture at the Corn Exchange denouncing the Roman Catholic Church, a dense crowd of Irishmen collected around the building and commenced throwing bricks and other missiles; and it was not until much damage had been done, the splendid glass windows broken, and several parties injured, that the mob could be quieted. The Mayor read the Riot Act. Several individuals are in custody.

CRUELTY TO A SHIP'S APPRENTICE.—Two sailors have been committed for trial at Newport, Monmouthshire, for causing the death of a boy named Thomas. The boy and the men belonged to the schooner *David and Martha*, lying in the dock. On Friday week the men took the boy out in a boat and "ducked" him till he was quite exhausted. While he was being passed up the ship's side from the boat he missed the rail from weakness, fell into the water, and was drowned.

BEQUEST BY THE LATE MR. SMYTH PIGOTT.—On Tuesday the Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset announced to the Court of Quarter Sessions a magnificent bequest from the late Mr. Smyth Pigott. It consists of upwards of 1000 drawings of the most interesting churches, monuments, and specimens of ancient domestic architecture with which the county of Somerset abounds. They are beautifully executed by the Messrs. Buckler, whose well-known taste and accuracy in the drawing of architectural detail has illustrated some of the most important topographical works that have been produced. They are executed in sepia or indienne, and have occupied the artists from 1818 to 1847. In addition there is a volume of drawings from impressions of seals, belonging to monasteries in various parts of England, to the number of 200. It was Mr. Pigott's wish that these illustrations should be published, and thereby made more accessible to the inhabitants of the county and the public generally, to whom such relics are becoming yearly more interesting. Whether this can be brought about in a befitting manner it is impossible as yet to state. In the meantime the trustees have handed over the collection to the members of the Somerset Archaeological Society, under whose surveillance the public will be enabled to view them.

FIRE AT THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM.—An extensive fire broke out on Sunday evening at the County of Gloucester Lunatic Asylum, which stands on an eminence about a mile from the city of Gloucester. The building is adapted to receive about 600 lunatics, and contains nearly that number. A crescent, with wings at each end, forms the principal part of the buildings, and one of these wings—a building 100 feet long by 50 in height—has been raised an additional story. During these alterations only the basement has been occupied by lunatics, the middle story being used as workshops. About half-past seven o'clock on Sunday night smoke was seen issuing through the roof of the wing near the crescent, and in a few minutes a volume of flame burst through. An alarm being raised, the medical superintendent, Dr. Williams, caused all the lunatics to be immediately removed to a distant part of the asylum. The authorities directed their efforts chiefly to the preservation of the crescent, and this, with some difficulty, they accomplished; but the fire spread gradually throughout the whole length of the wing, and room after room, and floor after floor was destroyed.

THE DAGENHAM MURDER.—Twelve years ago a policeman was found murdered in a field on his beat, at Dagenham, in Essex, but, notwithstanding every effort, no clue could be ascertained to the murderers. A short time since Mary Anne Smith, who lives near the spot, made a revelation on the subject, and the police authorities have apprehended a man—George Blewett, a farm labourer—one of five, besides the woman herself, who are alleged by her to have taken share in the murder. On Monday morning, at eleven o'clock, George Blewett, was brought up for re-examination at the Court-house, adjoining Ilford gaol, Essex, before a full bench of magistrates, charged with being implicated in the murder of George Clarke, a police constable of the K division, who was murdered on the morning of June 20, 1846, at Dagenham. Evidence as to the place of the deceased's beat on the night of the murder, the finding of the body, and the nature of the wounds upon it, having been given, Mary Ann Smith, residing at Dagenham, was then examined. She said I am the wife of Francis Smith, a farm servant, who is my third husband. My late husband (William Page) is dead, I have been living forty-two years in Dagenham, and I knew Clarke, the policeman. I recollect the dead body being found in the corn field on the 2nd of July. The witness then gave a narrative of the facts of the case, to the effect that her then husband, William Page, with Blewett, the man now in custody, Ralph Page, a small farmer, and two other men, Ned Wood and George Chalk, went in the night of the 29th of June, 1846, on a hiving expedition to the barn of a neighbouring farmer, and that her husband compelled her to accompany them, and watch. The policeman came up, and the men set upon him and murdered him. After a brief discussion among the magistrates on the bench, the examination of the prisoner was adjourned for a week. The prisoner was then removed to Ilford jail. Of the five persons implicated in the murder, by this woman's statement, besides herself, three have met with violent deaths: her first husband (Page) was accidentally killed, one hanged himself, and a third took poison. Chalk is supposed to be in Australia.



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—ARRIVAL OF HER MAJESTY AT STONELEIGH ABBEY. — (SEE PAGE 15.)



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—READING OF THE BIRMINGHAM CORPORATION ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY IN THE TOWNHALL.—(SEE PAGE 15.)

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

"The Thames fly from us," or rather the Thames fly the Thames. After much indignant protest against the state of the river, but much evident determination to do nothing to improve it, the Legislature has given hint that the sooner the Government can bring the Session to a termination the better, because then the Senators can escape from the odours they will not struggle to extinguish. And, with a curious amiability and compliant spirit, the Government is nothing loath to dismiss the Houses and put itself beyond the possibility of an accident between this and February. Consequently morning sittings are to be frequent, and the business of Parliament is greatly accelerated, like the pace of a cabman's horse when the hint is given that the exact fare only will be paid if he crawls. The Senate will abandon its post, probably after reporting in due form that the Thames is in a shocking condition, and that something ought to be done; and then, in comfortable and breezy country-houses, and by cool lakes, and in lounging coats and under fresh trees, the legislators will most likely read, and be as shocked as humane gentlemen ought to be, of the effects of the pestilential flood upon those who cannot get away. Even the Central Board is more faithful—it is taking measures to counteract some of the abominations, and pouring large quantities of lime at the mouths of the great sewers. But these alleviations are practically worthless, and may be worse, if they induce the metropolis to be content with palliatives.

The debates have not been particularly interesting. The Lords have assented to the removal from the Prayer-book of the Gunpowder, Martyrdom, and Restoration Services—a fact which the renders of the beautiful Prayer-books with velvet and gold clasps and little mirrors and other adornments, will be glad to hear, inasmuch as people who like to make presents will take the opportunity of demanding the revised edition. We hardly know who else is much concerned in the matter, as the good sense of the clergy has long prevented them from inflicting upon modern hearers the gratitude of our forefathers that Guy Fawkes did not blow up James I., their sorrow that Cromwell beheaded Charles I., and their ecstasy that Monk restored Charles II. Lord Dungannon stood up for the old services, as did the Bishop of Bangor; but the heads of the Church at once signified their approbation of the proposed change.

Mr. Disraeli will not state what he considers to be a Parliamentary majority, but evidently he does not think "two" entitled to that name. Captain Vivian was not disposed to let his proposition for handing over the Horse Guards to a responsible Minister be so quietly ignored as the Government proposed, and, though carried by two only, he insisted on respect being paid to a decision so pronounced. The Chancellor of the Exchequer will have nothing to do with the business, and delivered a long and amusing speech to show why such a majority ought to be disregarded. Lord John Russell did not seem entirely satisfied with the arguments, or exactly delighted with some of the illustrations, which bore upon his own political career.

There has been a very stout fight for East Norfolk; and, though upwards of 5600 voters were brought to the poll, the majority was but 235. The victory is to Mr. Coke, the Whig candidate, who has defeated Sir H. Stracey, the Conservative.

The Indian news is of the unsatisfactory, but not alarming, character that may be expected for some time to come. Wherever we meet the enemy, or rather whenever he can be brought to meet us, he is defeated with slaughter, but it is like striking at a globule of quicksilver—it disperses under your hand, but separates into numberless small globules, ready to join again at the first opportunity. Eventually, no doubt, some bold plan for crushing the rebels in a host of places at once, and sweeping the revolted districts clear, will be hit upon, but in the meantime there will be little but unfruitful struggle, and much suffering to our gallant troops. From China we have nothing of interest, except that a Mr. Murrow, of Hong-Kong, has "got" six months' imprisonment for libelling Sir John Bowring. The judge referred to the fact that in a recent case in which a fine had been inflicted it had been paid by public subscription, and expressed his determination to vindicate the law. Without reference to the particular case, there is much sense in this mode of treatment, and it might be employed with advantage by some of our police magistrates who inflict fines which they know will be paid by associations to which the offender belongs.

We have noticed some curious journalism upon the character of Prince Napoleon, who has been finally designated as chief of Algeria. It is said that the Prince, hitherto supposed to prefer the pleasures of life to everything else, is in reality a most artful and terrible man, who is only waiting his opportunity to seize the reins of the State, and to revel in tyranny after a fashion unequalled since the day of Nero. We cannot exactly say that we have accorded uncompromising faith to this story. But who knows? There is a new Ministry for Algeria and the Colonies, and it may be interesting to a nation with fifty of these dependencies to know how France divides hers. They are distributed into ten establishments:—1. Martinique; 2. Guadeloupe and its dependencies; 3. The Ile Reunion (Bourbon); 4. Mayottes and dependencies; 5. French Guiana; 6. St. Pierre and Miquelon, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; 7. Senegal; 8. The Isle of Goree and its dependencies; 9. The French establishments in India, the chief place of which is Pondicherry; 10. The French establishments in Oceania.

The advocate for M. Bernard, we need not name Mr. Edwin James, appears to have been induced, by the trial in which he so distinguished himself, to turn his attention to the condition of the French people. He is Recorder of Brighton, and in that capacity has offered three prizes for essays on the question whether constitutional government is suited to the French. When he has obtained the opinions of the Brighton Athenæum (whose members are to be the candidates) on the subject, he will probably transmit them to Paris for the information of the Emperor. We do not know that the idea is a peculiarly felicitous one; but it is quite certain that in another week French journalists will state, with their usual precision, that "Mr. Edward James, one of the British Lord Chancellors, has invited Brighton, which is a democratic suburb of London, to pronounce opinions in favour of disturbing order in France."

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—We understand that, in addition to the acceptance by her Majesty of a handsomely-bound copy of Mr. Maher's Official Programme (to which we, in common with our contemporaries, have been much indebted), the publisher has received a special order from Colonel Sir Charles Phipps for twelve more copies to be forwarded to Buckingham Palace. The programmes sent in accordance with this order are printed on the best drawing paper, with gilt edges, the vignettes illuminated, and the binding of scarlet morocco richly gilt.

Mr. Alexander Bower St. Clair has been appointed unpaid Attaché at St. Petersburg. Mr. Robert Edward Bulwer Lytton, first Aid Attaché at the Hague, has been transferred in the same capacity to St. Petersburg. Mr. De Normann, paid Attaché at Constantinople, has left London for his post.

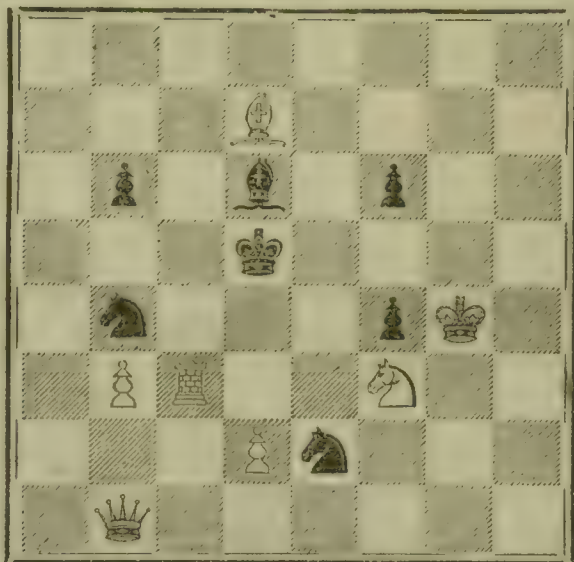
CHESS.

Our Notices to Correspondents are unavoidably postponed.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 748.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K 5th (ch)	R to K 4th	4. Q to Q Kt sq	Kt to Q 6th
2. Q to K Kt 6th (ch)	P to K B 4th		
3. Q to Q Kt 6th	B takes Kt (best)	5. Q to K R sq, mates	

PROBLEM No. 750.
By SIGNOR ARPA.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White, playing first, to mate in three moves.

MEETING OF THE BRITISH CHESS ASSOCIATION AT BIRMINGHAM.

The general meeting of the association (postponed from June) will be held at Birmingham, on the 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th days of August, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Lyttelton; the Vice-Presidents being the Right Hon. Lord Cremorne and Sir John Blunden, Bart. The Local Committee are, Messrs. Thomas Avery, President of the Birmingham Chess Club; E. V. Myth; James Deykin, jun.; J. F. Empson, jun.; James Freeman, H. S. Hill, C. M. Ingleby, C. T. Saunders, and Mr. William Kidder Wills, the secretary and treasurer.

The proceedings will be inaugurated by a meeting of the subscribers, to be held at ten o'clock on the 24th of August, for the election of officers, and the transaction of other business.

The Grand Tournament will consist of a series of matches between thirty-two players, and will be decided in the following manner, viz.:—the players will be paired off by lot, and each pair of players will play a rubber of three games; the winners in the first series of rubbers will then be paired off by lot, and each pair will play a second rubber of three games; the winners in the second series of rubbers will in like manner be paired off by lot, and each pair will play a rubber of three games; the winners in the third series of rubbers will then be paired off by lot, and each pair of players will play a rubber of three games. The two players remaining undefeated will then contest a match, in which the player who shall first score three games shall be accounted the victor, and shall be entitled to the FIRST PRIZE, of (not less than) SIXTY GUINEAS; and the losing competitor in which shall be entitled to the SECOND PRIZE, of (not less than) TWENTY GUINEAS.

The matches between clubs will be contested by a limited number of players on each side, and will consist of games played either single-handed or in consultation: in the latter case, it is recommended for the purpose of saving time that the allied players on each side shall not exceed two in number. The prizes in these encounters will consist of sets of Staunton chess-men, in ivory; the association contributing, in each instance, one-half of the cost, and the contending clubs the other half, in equal proportions.

The regulations to be observed by competitors in the tournament are as follow:—1. The Tournament shall be played at the Queen's College, Birmingham. 2. The names of competitors shall be sent in to the committee on or before the 6th day of August next, after which period no one will be permitted under any circumstances to enter. Every competitor on entering his name shall pay an entrance fee of ten shillings, unless he shall have previously paid a subscription to that amount; and if more than thirty-two gentlemen enter their names as competitors, the local committee shall select that number out of the gentlemen so entering their names to form the tournament. Should more than the required number of names be entered, it shall be competent to the local committee to arrange a supplemental tournament, with prizes dependent in amount on the funds at their disposal. 3. The whole of the players shall be present at the close of the meeting of the subscribers on the 24th day of August next, when they will be paired by lot; and any player who shall not then be in attendance shall be considered to have resigned his place in the tournament, and the committee shall nominate another player in his stead. 4. The playing shall commence on the 24th of August, immediately after the termination of the meeting of subscribers; and on the other days of the meeting at ten o'clock in the morning, and shall terminate each day at twelve o'clock p.m.; and any player who shall not be prepared to play within half an hour of the time fixed for the commencement of play, shall be considered to have relinquished the rubber in which he is then engaged in favour of his antagonist, should he choose to enforce the penalty (the latter being at his post within the specified time). 5. The local committee shall from time to time, during the progress of the meeting, fix the period for the commencement of each fresh series of rubbers. It being highly desirable to terminate the proceedings on the last day of the meeting if practicable, the competitors are earnestly requested not to consume time unnecessarily over their moves, and the local committee, in the interest and for the amusement of the assembly, reserve to themselves the right of interfering to prevent any needless delay in the progress of the games.

The following are the regulations to be observed by the players engaged in club-matches:—1. Each match shall be conducted under such regulations as the clubs engaged shall mutually agree upon. 2. The agreement under which each match is played shall, previously to the commencement of the match, be placed in the hands of the secretary.

A prize, consisting of a set of Staunton chess-men, in ivory, will be given for the best problem submitted, subject to the following rules, viz.:—1. Each competitor shall submit four (and only four) problems. 2. No problem shall consist of less than three, or more than five, moves. 3. The problems submitted shall be placed in the hands of the secretary on or before the 16th day of August next. 4. No problem shall compete which has been previously published, or which is not the original composition of the competitor. 5. No problem shall compete which has any other termination than a check-mate, or which is fettered by any special condition as to the mode in which mate is to be effected. 6. The local committee will publish, in the report of the proceedings, such of the problems submitted as they may deem deserving of publication; and no competitor shall publish, or allow to be published, any problem, until after the publication of the annual report of the association of the present year.

It shall be the business of the competitors in each game, on its conclusion, to furnish the secretary with an exact record, in writing, of the whole of the moves played; and as every subscriber will be entitled to a copy of the report, it is expected that no game will be previously published without the express sanction of the committee. The local committee will, before the commencement of meeting, appoint an umpire or umpires, to whom, or to one of whom, all disputed questions shall be referred, and whose decision shall be final; they also reserve to themselves the power to make any additional regulations, either previous to or during the continuance of the meeting.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

11, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, June 21, 1858.

Sir,—I beg to transmit to you the foregoing programme. Mr. Staunton, Mr. Paul Morphy (who is now in England), and several other players of distinguished excellence, have already signified their intention to take part in the grand tournament. It is, therefore, not premature to conclude that the meeting will be one of unusual interest.

At the meeting of the association, in 1857, a committee was nominated for the purpose of considering the three treatises on the Chess-Laws, prepared by Messrs. Jaenisch, Heydebrand von der Laas, and Staunton. The gentlemen upon whom this duty devolved having approved of a revised code, drawn up by Mr. Staunton, the new rules will be shortly published in a treatise on the openings, which that gentleman is now preparing for the press. The local committee have arranged with Mr. Staunton that the games played at the meeting, and the problems submitted, shall form an appendix to this work, and that a copy shall be presented gratuitously to every member of the association.

I remain, your obedient,
WILLIAM ROBERT WILKS, Secretary

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The marriage of the Prince Royal of the Two Sicilies with the Princess Maria of Bavaria will be celebrated by proxy at Munich in October next.

On Monday morning the Grenadier Guards were mustered in Hyde Park and reviewed by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, attended by Colonel Seymour, Lord Rokeby, and a numerous staff of officers.

The salmon fishing in our local rivers (says the *Aberdeen Journal*) has, since the present month (June) commenced, been very unproductive. However, the average for the season yet remains a good one, and it is hoped it may be maintained. The scarcity of grilse continues to be marked.

The Prince of Wales Assurance Company has, after long efforts, got an order from the Master of the Rolls for the delivering up and cancelling of the policy of assurance obtained by William Palmer, the murderer, upon the life of his brother Walter for £13,000.

The Government emigration ship *Nugget*, 1128 tons, of Liverpool, W. H. Bond, Commander, which sailed from Southampton on the 22nd of January with 855 passengers, arrived at Adelaide, South Australia, on the 3rd of April, having made the passage in 71 days.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, last week, considerable draughts of troops left the camp at Colchester for service in India. The total number to be dispatched is upwards of 1200.

The Duke of Cambridge reviewed the whole of the troops at Aldershot Camp, on Monday. There are now upwards of 6000 men under canvas, including artillery, &c.—It is rumoured that her Majesty will inspect the troops about the 5th of July.

Mr. Brunel, we regret to hear, continues seriously indisposed in the South of France.

On Sunday evening the Rev. Wm. D. Long, Incumbent of St. Paul's, Bermondsey, preached again in front of his church in Nelson-street to a most attentive audience of from 500 to 700 persons. He intends to preach there again next Sunday (to-morrow) evening.

The trials respecting the Dublin riots were brought to a conclusion on Friday week—the solicitor announcing that the ends of justice had been obtained by the investigation of all the circumstances of the riots elicited through the trial of Colonel Browne.

Lord Stanley, before quitting the Colonial Office, authorised a grant of £1000 towards defraying the cost of a complete account of Australian vegetation. We believe (says the *Gardener's Chronicle*) that Mr. Bontham has undertaken the duty of preparing the Australian Flora for the press.

The deliveries of tea in London estimated for last week were 771,629 lb., an increase of 12,404 lb. compared with the previous statement.

The rosary at the Crystal Palace is now in the highest perfection. Hundreds of thousands of red and white roses are in the fullest bloom and fragrance. The geraniums, calceolarias, petunias, and other choice plants are also at their best.

On Sunday, as three brothers, from Chiswick, were bathing in the Thames, near Barnes, the youngest, a youth eleven years of age, was carried off his depth by the swell of a passing steam-boat, and drowned.

Santana, by latest accounts, had invaded St. Domingo city, and had taken Samana, and destroyed it. Baz had blockaded Port au Platte, and destroyed it.

The Oxford University Commissioners met for the last time on Thursday week, their powers expiring on the 30th ult.

Marshal Randon, in a speech recently made on the anniversary of the taking of Algiers, stated that the conquest of Kabylia would be immediately followed up by the formation of a system of railways throughout the colony.

Accounts from Belgrade mention as positive the condemnation to death of the Turkish soldier who assaulted Mr. Fonblanque, the English Consul.

A guano island, sixty miles south-west of St. Domingo, has been claimed by the Haytian Government from the Americans, and the latter were, it was said, about to be expelled by force.

The Queen has just purchased the Baron de Triqueti's marble statue of "Edward the Sixth as Leader of the Protestant Faith," for the sum of 500 guineas. It has been exhibited during the past fortnight at M. de Sacy's gallery, in Great Marlborough-street.

Archdeacon Thorpe, of Bristol, has invited the clergy of that diocese to petition, now that the Jews are to be admitted to Parliament, that clergy of the Established Church may not be disqualified as members of Parliament.

A few days ago a number of factory operatives from Bury emigrated to Germany, having previously made engagements for three years, to work in German cotton-mills.

An elephant was among the passengers at the Lyons railway terminus on Friday week; he was booked from Abyssinia, and is destined to deposit his trunk in the Bois de Boulogne.

Lord Ward has been elected successor to Sir J. Pakington, as Chairman of the Court of Quarter Sessions for the county of Worcester.

The harvest accounts are most favourable. The hay harvest is excellent, cereals are everywhere progressing towards healthful maturity under the influence of the splendid weather, and potatoes are generally healthy and forward.

The aggregate number of patients relieved at the Metropolitan Free Hospital, Devonshire-square, City, during last week was—Medical, 672; surgical, 405: total, 1077.

A female has been appointed a clerk in the New York Post-office to attend the window at which ladies apply for letters.

On Monday, as some children were playing near the Sandhills (Liverpool) station of the Lancaster and Yorkshire Railway, a little boy, named Bernard McKenna, who had strayed on to the line, was killed by an advancing train.

Upwards of 30,000 letters a month pass to and from Weymouth and the Channel Islands by means of the steamers which have recently commenced running between Weymouth and Jersey.

The Bank of England, in reply to the memorial lately addressed to them, signed by 1100 merchants and others, in favour of the closing of banking houses on Saturdays at two o'clock, have declined to take the initiative.

The Catholic Reformatory for Girls, situate at Dalbeth, Parkhead, near Glasgow, and the Devon and Exeter Reformatory Institution, have been certified by the Secretary of State as fit to be reformatory schools.

On Sunday evening, as a man named Evans, residing in Blenheim-street, Liverpool, was drinking a glass of rum, one of his children, a girl three years old seized the glass suddenly and swallowed the contents. The child died on Monday in convulsions.

Count de Chambord, who lately returned from Venice to Frohedorf, went from this latter place to Laxenburg to dine with the Imperial family of Austria.

The postal conventions now projecting between England and Spain and Portugal will, if agreed to, greatly reduce the almost prohibitory postal rates now charged on the Spanish and Portuguese dependencies.

The Town Council of Edinburgh met on Monday to fill up the vacant chair of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, when Dr. Lyon Playfair was elected by a great majority.

It is in contemplation to run a steam bridge across the mouth of the Medina River, in the Isle of Wight, to connect East Cowes (where her Majesty resides) and West Cowes.

A boiler explosion occurred last Sunday evening at the weaving-shed of Messrs. Holden (Brothers), Daisyfield, Blackburn, which resulted in the instantaneous death of the engine tender, Henry Seed, and the destruction of a large amount of property.

A sturgeon, measuring 8ft. 8in. in length, and 3ft. 6in. in girth, was caught on Friday week, in the estuary of the River Lune, near Glasson. It weighed two hundred and ten pounds.

The Royal Engineer establishment at Chatham is about to be increased by four new companies, which will augment the Engineer Corps to thirty-six companies; and each company is to be made up to one hundred and twenty-six strong.

The number of patients relieved at the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, during last week was 1217, of which 132 were new cases.

The proprietors of a scheme of direct steam navigation between Galway and America have advertised the dispatch of a second vessel, the *American Emigrant*; a vessel of 3000 tons burden and 1000 horse power. The day of departure is fixed for Tuesday, the 27th inst.

The visitors at the South Kensington Museum last week were:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (free days), 2923; on Monday and Tuesday (free evenings), 3185; on the three students' days (admission to the public 6d.), 539; one students' evening (Wednesday), 104: total, 7156.

M. Thiers is on the point of leaving Paris for Emu, whence he will proceed to Holland and Belgium, with the view of collecting materials for the last volume of his "History of the Consulate and the Empire."



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

WE continue to illustrate the chief incidents and scenes connected with the late Royal Progress through Warwickshire; and we would fain hope that the Engravings, coloured and plain, on the subject in this week's ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, with those contained in the two Numbers immediately preceding it, will not only prove of present interest, but that they will be referred to in after time as a worthy memento of one of the most interesting events of the reign of Queen Victoria. We take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the courtesy which the artists of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS everywhere met with, and for the facilities accorded to them, by means of which we have been enabled so effectively to illustrate the Royal Visit. Amongst those to whom we are specially indebted are the Earl of Warwick; Lord Leigh; Sir John Ratcliff, the Mayor of Birmingham; and his brother, Mr. Charles Ratcliff. At Warwick Castle, Mr. Leitch, one of the artists appointed to sketch the incidents of the Royal Progress for this Journal, had the honour of submitting to her Majesty, by Royal command, his portfolio of sketches. The Queen looked at the drawings apparently with great interest, and was graciously pleased to express her approval of their vigour and correctness. Annexed are some descriptive details of the places and incidents illustrated in this week's ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS:—

ASTON HALL.

(PRINTED IN COLOURS.)

THIS hall—the inauguration of which, with the park in which it stands, by her gracious Majesty will ever cause Tuesday, the 15th June, to be kept as a red-letter day by the people of Birmingham—claims a short notice, historical and descriptive, in addition to the particulars respecting it which have been already given in this Journal.

The erection of the hall was begun in 1618, by Sir Thomas Holte, Bart., a descendant of a family settled at Duddeston Manor House, in the parish of Aston, from the time of Edward I. His father had intermarried with a daughter of John Ferrers, Esq., of Tamworth Castle, who was connected with some of the noblest families that sprang from the chieftains of William the Conqueror. Sir Thomas came into possession in 1592, on the death of his father; he was chosen, in 1603, as one of the deputation from Warwickshire who went to the borders of Scotland to welcome James I. on his accession to the English throne; and nine years subsequently he was created a Baronet, for which honour he paid more than £1000 to the Exchequer, in three instalments. He immediately commenced inclosing the park. The hall was completed in 1635; but the founder had been residing there for four years previously. In 1642, when Charles I. was in the midst of his troubles, and his army was marching from Shrewsbury to relieve Banbury Castle, that unfortunate Monarch rested on the 16th and 17th October at Aston Hall, the old Baronet being a well-known and staunch Royalist. The "King's Room," in which Charles slept, and the two small rooms adjoining, have ever since been—and, despite the altered uses to which the building is put, will no doubt continue to be—the most interesting portions of the pile. But, while the Aston Baronet espoused the Royal cause, the people of Birmingham were fierce Parliamentarians. Charles, who well knew this, and desired to conciliate, issued orders to his men to protect the property of the townfolk, and he shot two soldiers for pillaging. But in vain; for immediately after he left the hall the Birmingham people seized the Royal plate, which was being conveyed to Warwick Castle for safety. In April, 1643, they met with the fiery Rupert, who gave them a severe check; but, in the following December, the Birmingham folk, to the number of 1200—aided, as it is said, by the Parliamentary garrison from Coventry—attacked the hall. Tradition says that this was done because it was believed that Charles was then in the place; but Mr. Alfred Davidson, the historian of Aston, disbelieves this story, and attributes the attack to political hostility, stimulated by the fact that Sir Thomas Holte had obtained forty musketeers from Dudley Castle, as an aid to defence from an attack which he expected, from the known irritation of the Birmingham people. The firing began on the 26th December, and continued during the two following days; and to this moment there remain evidences of the contest, in holes in the outer wall the shattering of part of an oak standard of the balustrade, in a great staircase, and the hole made by a shot in the plaster on the opposite wall—an engraving of which has appeared in this Journal. After heavy casualties on both sides—the time and the means considered—the garrison of Aston Hall surrendered, and the hall was plundered.

Passing over a long period; we find the estates, in 1817, vested in the wife of Mr. Abraham Bracebridge, of Atherstone Hall, who, from pecuniary reasons, obtained in that year an act of Parliament to enable her to sell the lands, &c. The Hall and Park then passed into the possession of Messrs. Greenway, Groaves, and Whitehead, bankers, of Warwick, by whom portions of the land were sold as building sites, to meet the growth of the iron town of Birmingham. Mr. James Watt, son of the Watt, took the hall and some of the lands upon a lease for twenty years; and, upon his death, they came into the occupation, for twelve months, of Mr. James Shaw, a merchant of the town.

The people of modern Birmingham have ever looked upon Aston hall and park as classic ground—at least, as the Kenilworth or Warwick Castle of their immediate neighbourhood. During Mr. Watt's tenancy, they saw little of what remained of the old internal characteristics of the place; although Mr. Watt did much to restore them, especially by clearing off the abomination of white paint that had been plastered upon the oak panelling of the great gallery. At length, when Birmingham saw Aston Hall deserted and its old grounds constantly encroached upon, the idea sprang up of converting them into a park and museum for the people, who were much in want of public grounds for recreation. The scheme, as we have previously stated, was energetically taken up by Mr. (now Sir) John Ratcliff, the Mayor, and by many of the county gentlemen, and brought to a successful issue. Since then, unremitting efforts have been devoted to a strict restoration of the interior. Paints and plasters have been removed from staircases, walls, and ceilings; judicious decorations have been carried out; and now there is almost as fine an Elizabethan interior, "touched up" by appropriate though slight colourings, as can be found in England. As it was determined to have an art and industrial exhibition on the occasion of the opening, it was found necessary to make an addition to the hall on the terrace front. The new erection, which is mainly of iron and glass, covers the ground of the old terrace; and a new terrace has been constructed, harmonising with the addition made—all the pillars, mouldings, and ornaments being modelled from those existing in the hall.

There are between sixty and seventy rooms or apartments in the hall; the finest being the great gallery, which is said to exceed all others of the period in England, excepting only those at Hardwicke and Hatfield. The gallery is 136 feet by 40 feet, and of a good height; and the ceiling, which is moulded in panels and floreated scrolls, is regarded as the best extant of the close of the Elizabethan period. At the east end a fine oriel window has been filled with a clever specimen of stained glass, by Messrs. Chance, of Birmingham; the window being a gift by those gentlemen. The centre is occupied by the Royal arms, with those of Bracebridge above and Holte below. In the hall there are placed many interesting specimens of old furniture—some from their association with the hall and its founder, others contributed by neighbouring gentlemen, and the remainder belonging to the Soules Collection. After receiving the address of the interim managers on the inaugural day her Majesty examined several of the relics.

WARWICK CASTLE.

(PRINTED IN COLOURS.)

THIS CASTLE, a place of great importance from its situation, is of much more importance from its being the seat of men whose names are intimately connected with the most prominent events in English history. The visit to Warwick Castle by her Majesty, on her return from performing the inaugural ceremonies at Aston Park, will throw an addi-

tional halo of interest around the place. According to the chroniclers of the Royal visit the Queen was much delighted with the superb view of Warwick Castle obtained from the bridge which spans the Avon, whose polluted stream rolls at the base of the grand old pile, the habitable apartments of which are more than 200 feet above the river bed. Next to a view of the Castle from the bridge by moonlight, nothing could have been finer than the view which her Majesty obtained of the castle on Wednesday. The sun shone forth in mid-summer brilliancy, without a cloud so large as a man's hand in view, and amidst the cheers of her faithful subjects Queen Victoria drew up in front of the venerable pile, the founder of the original structure upon the site on which it stands being the great Alfric's daughter. Shortly after two o'clock the castle gates were swung open, and the Queen's carriage entered, the Royal standard floating from the far-famed Caesar's Tower.

Tradition gives a fortress to Warwick in the time of the Romans. Some state that a fortification was erected by P. Ostorius Scapula, A.D. 50; others that it was the Presidium Romanorum; and that a cohort of Dalmatian horse was here placed under the command of Dux Romanorum. Certain it is that, after the destruction of the town by the Danes, it was rebuilt, and taken under the special protection of Ethelred, the spirited and accomplished daughter of Alfred the Great. This Princess, who married Ethelred, Earl of Mercia, laid the foundation of the castle in the year 916. It became the residence of the successive Earls, and proved of considerable consequence by its influence on the surrounding neighbourhood.

But this repose was doomed to be interrupted by a successful incursion of the Danes under Canute, in 1016, when the fortifications of the castle, as well as those of the town, were nearly demolished. They, however, quickly arose from the ruins; and at the time of the Conquest Warwick was mentioned in Domesday Book, as a borough containing 261 houses, and was evidently, with its castle, regarded as a place of much consequence; for orders were issued by the Conqueror to Turchil, then Vicecomes or Earl (son of Alwine, officiating Earl of Warwick, temp. Edward the Confessor), to repair and fortify the town and castle of Warwick. This was carried into effect by surrounding the town with a strong wall and ditch, and by enlarging the castle (which before consisted of little more than the keep) and strengthening its fortifications. In effecting this object, six houses belonging to the Prior of Coventry were demolished; a demolition which in those days would not have been allowed had not urgent reasons of the state demanded it.

The present approach to the castle was formed at a considerable expense, with great taste, by the father of the late Earl. It commences with a recently-erected embattled gateway called the Porter's Lodge, on the eastern side of the town of Warwick, and fronting the road leading to Leamington. Passing through the Porter's Lodge the visitor enters a fine broad winding road, deeply cut through the solid rock; the ample branches of the variegated and thickly-planted coppices forming a canopy above, with the moss and ivy creeping in fertile wildness beneath, form a picture romantic and pleasing. Proceeding about 100 yards, a sudden turn in the road brings the visitor to the outer court (formerly a vineyard, and where, it is said, so far back as the time of Henry IV., the rich clusters of grapes came to considerable perfection), where the stupendous line of fortifications, with the "cloud-capt towers," breaks suddenly upon the sight in all its bold magnificence, seeming (firmly joined as it is to its rocky foundation) to bid defiance to the all-subduing power of time. On a nearer approach the whole front of the outer works become clearly defined; on the right appears the fine polygon tower dedicated to Earl Guy, having twelve sides, walls ten feet in thickness, a base of thirty feet in diameter, and rising to the height of 128 feet. It is machicolated, and from its exactness of design and beauty of execution, is considered a remarkably fine specimen of the architectural remains of the fourteenth century. On the left the venerable Caesar's tower—said to be coeval with the Norman conquest—arrests the attention; it is of irregular construction, and, although it has braved the ravages of time and the depredations of man for nearly 800 years, still continues firm as the rock on which it was founded. This tower rises to the height of 147 feet from its base, and is also machicolated. It is connected with Guy's Tower by means of a strong embattled wall, in the centre of which is the ponderous arched gateway, flanked by towers and succeeded by a second arched gateway, with towers and battlements rising far above the first; they were formerly defended by two portcullises, one of which still remains; before the whole is a now disused moat, with an arch thrown over it at the gateway, where formerly was the drawbridge.

Passing the double gateway the stranger enters the inner court, where a scene is presented to the view which excites feelings of admiration. The spacious area of the court is clothed by a carpet of rich green sward. But the "remnant of ancient days" arrests the imagination; on the left stands the grand irregular castellated mansion of the feudal Barons of Warwick—a residence truly fit for the "mighty chiefs" who have been its possessors. Uninjured by time, unaltered in appearance by modern improvements, it still retains that bold, irregular, pleasing outline, so peculiar to the ancient Gothic castellated style; on the left is also Caesar's Tower. In the front is the Mount or Keep, clothed from its base to its summit with trees and shrubs; the top of this mount is crowned with towers and battlements, in the centre of which is a Gothic gateway closed by an iron grating, the light breaking through which relieves the heaviness of the battlements and produces a pleasing effect. On the right appear two unfinished towers; one of which is the Bear Tower, begun by Richard III., and at the extreme termination on the right is the lofty and commanding Guy's Tower; the whole range is joined together by ramparts and embattled walls of amazing thickness; open flights of steps and broad walks on the tops of the walls lead to the various towers and turrets, and thus a communication is formed with the whole fortress. The scene is a truly grand one, "and so perfect is the fascination, that it would be difficult to say what might be added that could improve, or what might be taken away that would not injure the effect of the whole."

The great hall is a fine room, 62 feet long by 40 wide, and contains a fine collection of armour. The suite of rooms is 333 feet long. Among the paintings are Charles I. by Vandyke; a burgomaster, by Rembrandt; works by Leonardo da Vinci, Rubens, Paul Veronese, Guido Reni, Holbein, Salvator Rosa, Ludovico Caracci, &c. The collection is very fine. There are also other works of art, including the celebrated Warwick vase. The state apartments of the castle are open for the inspection of visitors.

THE GUNMAKER'S ARCH, BIRMINGHAM.

At Costa-green the gunmakers of Birmingham uphold the honour and credit of the town by an artistic display of firearms. This singular and fanciful structure was designed by Messrs. William and James Scott, Jun., gunmakers, of Bath-street, and, as a work of art, was in the highest degree creditable to them. The extreme height of the trophy, from the ground to the top of the flagstaff, was 80ft., the span of the arch 50ft., and the height to the keystone 42ft. The base of each pillar was 8ft. wide, and the width of the pillars themselves 6ft. The depth of the arch was 10ft. The woodwork was painted a warm stone colour, and the plan of decoration was as follows:—At the foot of each pillar there was a star formed with tastefully-arranged groups of swords, bayonets, and bright ramrods, surrounding the borough arms and the Prussian arms. About the middle of the pillars the initials V. R. were placed, surrounded by a wreath of laurel and a star of eight points, formed with swords. Each capital was ornamented with a design formed with crossed sabres, and the crown of the arch was decorated with pistols. Beneath these pistols was the inscription, in gold letters on a purple velvet ground, "Welcome to our Queen!" Immediately under the inscription a blue velvet curtain was suspended, to which a fringe of bright ramrods or bayonets was attached, and from the centre of the arch descended a magnificent star, 15ft. in diameter, composed of muskets with fixed bayonets. The arch was surmounted by the Royal arms, 17ft. in width by 10ft. high, brilliantly painted. Above this was another smaller star; and above all a grand military trophy of the flags of all nations, with bannerets of lances, while from the summit floated the Royal standard of England. The total number of articles employed in the decoration was 200 pistols, between 300 and 400 muskets, 8000 ramrods, 1000 bayonets, 200 lances, and about 86 flags. The total value of the arms used is estimated at £4000. The design was carried out by Mr. Creke, of Caroline-street, the painter of the Viceroy of Egypt's carriage, and Mr. Matthews,

builder, Wood-street. This structure was erected by the masters and operatives of the gunmaking trade; who may fairly congratulate themselves upon the erection of so magnificent an arch.

ARRIVAL OF THE QUEEN AT STONELEIGH ABBEY.

From Coventry to Stoneleigh Abbey the distance is somewhere about four miles, along a beautiful country road, with corn fields and golden meadows on each side, great old oaks and elms at the corners and turnings, and pleasant little country cottages, whose inhabitants in their best crowded round the doors, or peeped in twos and threes from the latticed windows. Here and there along the hedge-rows stood many a market cart which Gainsborough would have stopped to copy, filled with sturdy peasants, who beguiled the time by laughing at everything that passed, and interstitially filling their capacious mouths with home-made bread and cheese. The farmers were on horseback in numerous squadrons, on steeds of varied colour and stature, but of a pervading sobriety of demeanour—all looking as if they had just arrived from Mr. Karpis's Academy; and large waggons had been temporarily thatched with straw and made the snugest nests possible for the blooming nymphs, who were packed as nymphs only could be packed in regions where crinoline was not. Every tree bore its human fruit dangling from branch or clinging from trunk, and consisting chiefly of adventurous little boys, who climbed and scrambled like so many squirrels with a sovereign contempt for the tenacity of their pantaloons; and over and anon, as the wayfarer came to a nook in the road, rose some antediluvian elm, vast, gnarled, and hollow with age, and at its base squatted a patient party of sight-seekers, waiting patiently, with the thermometer at 95 deg. even in their shady quarters, "from noon to dowsy eve," for a passing sight of their much-beloved Queen. There were lots of loyal hunting displayed along the route. The hedges were *paradeis* in the French manner at intervals, triumphal arches of various pretensions marked the stages, and the crowd and the police, and the hussars and the yeomanry cavalry, kept the whole four miles of rural road alive, from Coventry town to Stoneleigh Abbey. There are few who require to be told what a fine baronial residence is this old abbey, once the well-chosen retreat of a community of Cistercian monks, and now the family seat of Lord Leigh, one of the most amiable and popular noblemen in the midland counties. The park—through which is in itself a long journey—is a noble chase studded with gigantic trees and alive with numerous herds of deer. The grass in the vicinity of the main avenue had been newly shaven for the Royal visit, the roadway thoroughly repaired, and, although the gateways were strictly guarded, many gaily-dressed parties had found their way into the park, and bivouacked patiently under the great trees while waiting for the Royal cavalcade. The whole picture was at once gay and imposing, urban and sylvan—as populous as a Chinese city, as merry as an English fair. Everything was bright and happy, from the hot sun overhead, which roasted every one with benign complacency and an edifying impartiality, to the groups of ragged little boys who ran about the roads, got in everybody's way, made faces at the dragons, and still more spiteful ones at the police, and rehearsed a loyal chorus of cheers at intervals of about five minutes, in order that they might be ready with a truly impressive "*viva*" when the important moment had actually arrived.

The Royal procession entered the noble demesne of Stoneleigh by the fine ivy-covered "London" Lodge, passed through the Deer Park, an enclosure of considerable extent, and abounding with venerable oaks, where the fine herd of deer were sporting themselves. Passing under a triumphal arch, erected across the road which separates the Deer Park from the Home Park, at the East Lodge, the Royal cortege passed on to the Abbey, which was reached punctually at half-past six.

The Royal visitors were received at the entrance to the Abbey by Lord and Lady Leigh, the Dowager Lady Leigh, &c., and conducted to a suite of rooms prepared for their accommodation. Immediately on her Majesty's arrival a Royal salute was fired by sixty members of the Artillery (from Nottingham), who were stationed in "the Grove," under the command of Captain Leslie; and at the same time a fine Royal standard of England (in every respect similar to that at Buckingham Palace) was hoisted over the Abbey in the place of a Union Jack which previously floated there. Sentinels, being members of the Yeomanry, were also on duty around the Abbey. Soon after the Queen had arrived, the band of the Second Life Guards was stationed in the terrace gardens, and played a selection of music during dinner.

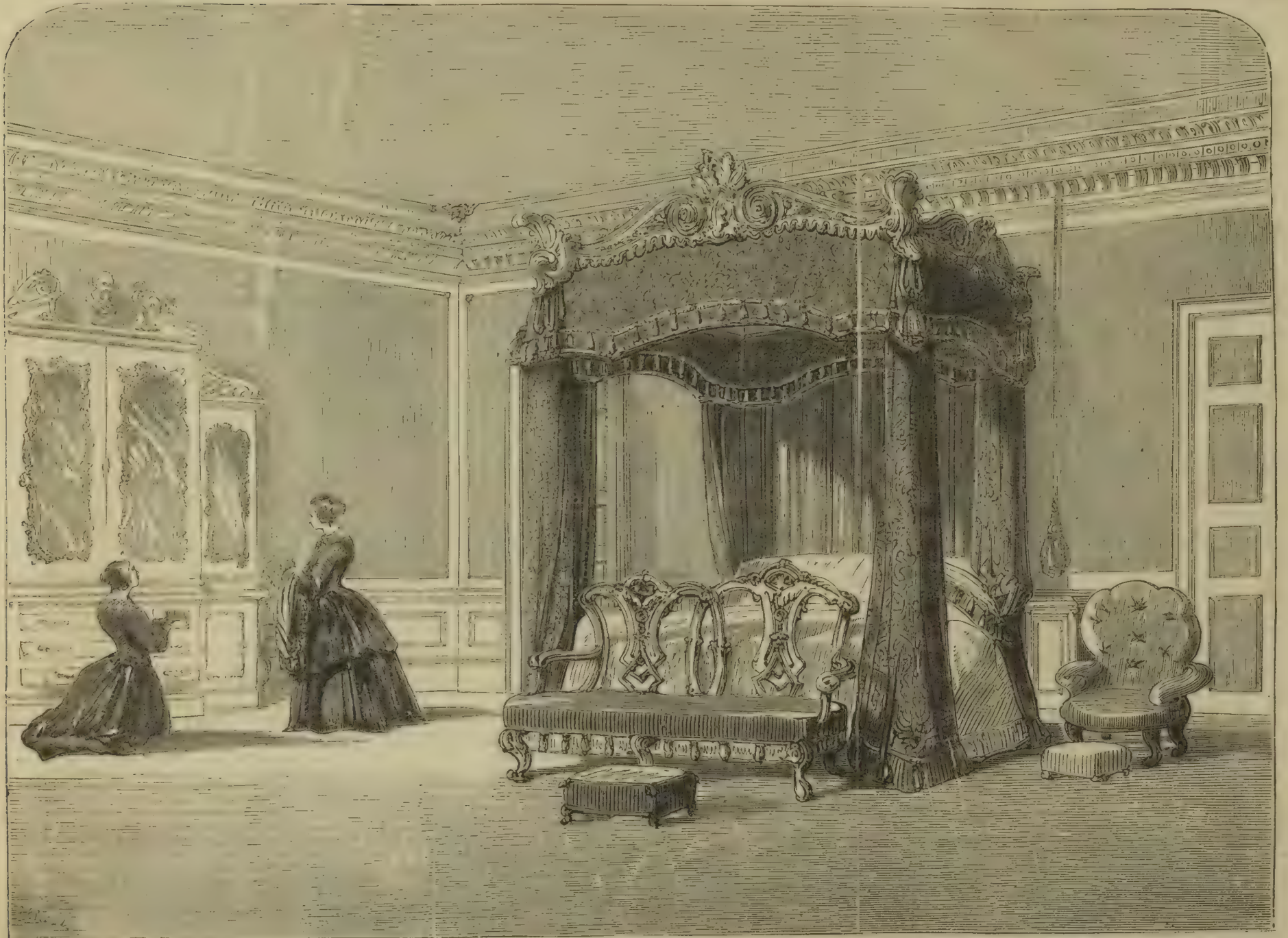
PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN IN THE TOWNHALL, BIRMINGHAM.

Upon the interior of the Townhall the art of the decorator had been lavished, and nothing which artistic skill could devise had been spared to render the arrangement suitable to the occasion. At the end of the hall nearest the organ-gallery a dais and colossal canopy had been erected. The canopy was richly designed and exceedingly effective. The principal feature in it was a deep gold cornice. At the bottom edge was an enriched moulding, relieved by a band of laurel-leaves and ribbons, running from each side and meeting in the centre. Above this was another bold moulding, forming the upper member of the cornice, surmounted by an elegant brattishing of fleurs-de-lis and cross pattée, thus imparting an artistic effect, and preventing any appearance of abruptness in its termination. The cornice in front was circular, with the angles also formed of part-circles terminating in bold and ornamental pendants. Over the centre was a well-executed group, comprising a large shield bearing the monogram V.R., surmounted by a Royal crown; supporting the shield were bold and well-modelled figures of boys holding roses in their hands, and below the shield, breaking over the cornice, ran a graceful festoon of roses. The whole of the cornice and its embellishments were richly gilt. Rising above the cornice to a height of about five feet was a dome covered with violet velvet on which was an ornamental gilt trellis, the admixture of colour and gold producing an effect of richness. On each side, and surmounting the whole, were plumes of ostrich feathers, of a mixture of white and corse. Supporting the canopy and forming a background of gold, to give effect to the curtains and draperies, were rich cantilever trusses on pilasters, with festoons of flowers and drops of oaks and acorns.

The draperies to the canopy were of rich violet velvet lined with white silk, tastefully relieved with gold-coloured trimmings of gimp and cord. On a dais raised about two feet from the floor and ascended by steps was the Royal chair. It was richly gilt, and covered with corse moiré antique, elegantly wrought in embroidery and shaded gold. On each side were chairs of less pretension, covered with silk of the same hue. The dais was enclosed by the draperies of the canopy on three sides with linings of white silk. In the centre of that, forming the back, was the Royal arms, elaborately embroidered in gold, in high relief. The work was executed by Messrs. Hanson, Wright, and Mansfield, of John-street, Oxford-street.

The floor of the hall was covered with a superb Brussels carpet of green ground, and gold stars and crimson border—the pattern the same as the one used in the House of Lords. Up the centre of the hall, approaching the dais, was placed a broad strip of maroon-coloured carpet, velvet-piled; and round three sides were seats, covered with crimson cloth, appropriated to ladies.

About half-past twelve o'clock the cheers of the crowd without and the strains of the National Anthem made known to those assembled within the hall the approach of Royalty. A pause of ten minutes ensued, during which her Majesty and the Prince Consort had been received by the Mayor, and had been conducted to their private rooms. At the expiration of that time the Lord Chamberlain, General Bouverie, Colonel Seymour, and Sir C. Phipps, advanced into the Hall, and in immediate attendance on her Majesty came the Mayor and the Town Clerk. The instant the Queen and Prince appeared the vast audience rose and at this moment nothing could be more brilliant than the gorgeous scene. Her Majesty, leaning on the left arm of the Prince, now advanced up the centre of the Hall, the company bowing low as her Majesty walked up the Hall. The ladies and gentlemen of her suite followed, consisting of Mr. Secretary Walpole, Lord Leigh, the Marquis of Abercorn, the Duchess of Sutherland, Lady Stopford, the Duchess of Atholl, and Sir Harry Smith. The Queen took her place on the splendid dais, Prince Albert standing on her left. Her Majesty beckoned to the ladies of her suite, and they immediately ascended the dais, and stood behind the throne. The organ then sounded the key-note of



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—HER MAJESTY'S BEDROOM, STONELEIGH ABBEY.—(SEE PAGE 15.)



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—HER MAJESTY PLANTING AN OAK IN THE GROUNDS OF WARWICK CASTLE.—(SEE PAGE 15.)



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—READING OF THE ADDRESS OF THE INTERIM MANAGERS TO HER MAJESTY IN THE GREAT GALLERY OF ASTON HALL.—(SEE PAGE 15.)

the National Anthem, and in a moment four hundred voices, led by Mr. Stockley, pealed forth the hymn. As soon as the music had ceased, the Mayor, who wore his robes of office over a full Court suit, advanced to the dais, and said: "On behalf of the Town Council, I have the honour to present an address to your Majesty, which the Town Clerk will now read." That learned gentleman then read the following loyal address:—

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, humbly offer to your Majesty and your Royal Consort our cordial welcome.

From the day of your Majesty's accession to the Throne we have regarded your Royal person with sincere and devoted affection, and we have long looked forward to an opportunity of emulating, with generous zeal, the ardent loyalty of our fellow-subjects in other great cities of your empire.

Now that the joyful moment has arrived, we approach the Throne with no common emotion; we feel the liberty and security we enjoy; we appreciate the bright example of your Majesty's virtues; and we humbly thank Almighty God for having blessed us with so good a Queen.

In the name of the vast community we represent, we humbly beg to convey to your Majesty our cordial thanks for the signal honour which your Majesty has deigned to confer upon the borough of Birmingham, and our heartfelt wishes that your Majesty may long be spared to receive the grateful homage of a loyal and devoted people.

The Mayor having humbly offered the address to the Queen, her Majesty read her reply, with a clear and distinctly modulated voice, as follows:—

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—I have received with pleasure your loyal and dutiful address, expressing your sincere and devoted affection to my person and my throne.

It is most gratifying to me to have the opportunity of visiting this ancient and enterprising town, the centre of so much of our manufacturing industry; and I trust that you may long remain in the full enjoyment of that liberty and security without which even industry itself must fail to reap its appropriate reward.

I desire you will convey to the vast community which you represent my sincere thanks for their cordial welcome, assuring them at the same time of the pleasure I have derived from witnessing the great and increasing prosperity of Birmingham and its neighbourhood.

An address from the Corporation was then presented to the Prince Consort, his Royal Highness making a brief yet effective reply.

The Queen now signified to Mr. Secretary Walpole her gracious desire to confer the honour of knighthood upon the Mayor; and this intimation having been conveyed to Mr. Ratcliff, he advanced to the foot of the dais, and knelt before her Majesty. The Queen then received from the Home Secretary his sword of office, which her Majesty laid first upon the left shoulder of the Mayor, and then upon the right, pronouncing the usual words, "Rise, Sir John Ratcliff." Sir John, on rising, was graciously permitted to kiss hands; after which the mover and seconder of the addresses and the four senior aldermen (Messrs. Hawkes, Parnell, Phillips, and Cutler) had also the honour of kissing hands. The various aldermen, and other members of the Corporation, were introduced individually to the Queen, who bowed to the entire (sixty odd) with great good humour. Thereupon the Queen, accompanied as on her entry, retired; the vast assembly, which up to this time had preserved the most respectful silence, standing up and cheering, and waving hats and handkerchiefs, with the most hearty enthusiasm. Her Majesty and the Prince retired while the procession to Aston Hall was being formed, and in a few minutes the vast assembly dispersed.

THE QUEEN'S BEDROOM, STONELEIGH ABBEY.

Her Majesty honoured Lord Leigh by sleeping at his family mansion, Stoneleigh Abbey, on her way to Birmingham to open Aston Park, and also on her return thence the following day. The rooms set apart for her Majesty at the Abbey, comprising the whole of the first floor, were entirely redecorated and newly furnished for the Royal visit. The panels in the sleeping-apartment and Prince Consort's room were of deep green velvet diaper, with a border four inches wide of white and gold filigree ornament, enclosed with a plain style of pale primrose tint, the wood enamel white, with gold mouldings. The carpet was a velvet-green diaper in the centre, with a flower border on white ground, entwined with a crimson ribbon. The chimney pieces were of the Louis XVI.'s style, enamel, white, and gold. The general furniture was a novel application in enamel, white and gold, of the old English style, about the middle of the last century, trimmed with deep green damask, with silver and gold fringe. The dressing-room adjoining these rooms was also panelled, the tints on the panels being a pale lilac, with white and gold filigree ornaments and pale amber, the styles being four inches wide. The curtains were deep amber, with white lace; the furniture was of the Louis XVI.'s period, in enamel, white and gold seats, covered with amber damask, bordered with white and scarlet silk cord. The decorations and furniture of the other apartments appropriated to the use of her Majesty and suite displayed the same exquisite taste. Messrs. Moxon, of London and Edinburgh, had the entire management of the decorations. The carpets of the rooms of her Majesty and the Prince Consort were manufactured by Messrs. Lapworth and Co., of Bond-street and Wilton, from designs specially drawn for the occasion, of the richest velvet and Brussels fabrics.

HER MAJESTY PLANTING AN OAK IN THE GROUNDS OF WARWICK CASTLE.

The Royal party, whilst at Warwick Castle, went over the grounds, and her Majesty visited the recently-erected additions to the castle, and made inquiries as to the use of the several new parts. Prince Albert observed the many valuable armorial relics, and paid great attention to the artistic treasures with which the rooms abounded. The Queen, taking the Earl of Warwick's arm, walked across the fine lawn upon which the Yeomanry band was stationed. The Royal party then went towards the river underneath the beautiful cedars, and on a lovely slope the Queen planted an oak which Lord Warwick took from the hand of a servant. Prince Albert, at a suitable distance, planted a "Wellingtonia;" and in these operations Mr. Spink, gardener to the Earl of Warwick, and Mr. Copp, gardener to Sir W. W. Wynn, of Wynstanley, had the honour of assisting. The Royal party, after the planting had been performed, returned to the castle.

PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESS OF THE INTERIM MANAGERS TO HER MAJESTY.

The great gallery of Aston Hall was covered throughout with a carpet designed and made expressly for the occasion, the pattern being a Tudor rose and fleur-de-lis. The large window at the extremity has been fitted with stained glass, appropriately designed and supplied by Messrs. Chance, of Spon-lane. In the centre of the room, west side, was placed a dais, covered with a rich carpet of maroon ground, with "E. R." (Elizabeth Regina) beneath it, and a Royal crown in bold relief in the centre. Two chairs, covered with rich material, and made for the occasion, were placed on the dais for the Queen and the Prince. At the back were hung in graceful folds, curtains, ornamented with fleur-de-lis and other devices.

The assembled guests having taken their places in the great gallery to witness the presentation of the address of the Interim Managers, her Majesty and Prince Albert entered the gallery from the south end. Under the guidance of the Lord Chamberlain and Sir Francis Scott they approached the *haut-pas*, and, after standing a few moments, sat down in the chairs of state provided for them, the ladies and gentlemen of the suite in waiting standing behind. Sir Francis Scott, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, then read the following address:—

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

"May it please your Most Gracious Majesty,—We, the undersigned, the Interim Managers of Aston Hall and Park, beg leave to approach your Majesty with the earnest assurance of our devoted
(Continued on page 20.)

MEDALS.—The Messrs. Pinches have struck two excellent medals in bronze for Mr. Curt, antiquary. On the reverse of one intended to commemorate the Queen's visit to Warwick is a view of Warwick Castle surrounded in trees; whilst on that of the other medal is an inscription setting forth that it is intended to commemorate the opening by her Majesty of Aston Hall and Park as a place of recreation for the people of Birmingham. The obverse of both bears a clearly-defined and charming profile of her Majesty. The Messrs. Cooke, of Warwick, have also struck a medal commemorative of the Queen's visit to Warwick Castle.

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—As the regular season approaches its close, the accumulation of fresh novelties, and the reputation of the choicest among the operas which have won the enthusiastic favour of the subscribers, promise to make the end exceed in brilliancy the commencement and the meridian of a season which has been marked throughout by extraordinary energy and success. On Thursday Titiens, Alboni, and Giuglini appeared in the "Trovatore," which, often as it has been played, was never given with a cast so powerful as that of the present year. Saturday (to-day) is appropriated for the "Huguenots," which, it will be remembered, afforded to the new soprano the first of her series of triumphs among us. "Lucrezia Borgia," the greatest of Mlle. Titiens' impersonations and one of Giuglini's triumphs, is reserved for a morning performance on Monday next, the 5th inst., when it will be followed by Paisiello's charming little operetta, "La Serva Padrona," that gave so much *éclat* to Mr. Benedict's concert, the charming Piccolomini supporting the principal part. On the Tuesday we are to have another revival in the shape of Verdi's "Nino," which has been selected for the first appearance of Mlle. Spezia. Mozart's glorious "Don Giovanni," with Titiens as Donna Anna, Piccolomini as the coquettish Zerlina, Benvenuto as the Don, and Giuglini, Violetti, and Ortolani in the other principal parts, is to be played once more on Thursday, July 8, the last of the extra nights. Ballo's "Zingara" will be given on the Saturday following, with Piccolomini, Giuglini, Belletti, and, it is said, Alboni in the part of the *Gipsy Queen*. On all these occasions the ballet will be graced by the great representatives of two essentially different styles of dancing—Mme. Rosati and Mlle. Pocchini. These arrangements will leave only two nights to complete the subscription season.

At the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA Tamberlik has reappeared in his favourite character of *Otello*, which he performed on Tuesday with immense power and enthusiastic applause. Grisi shared in the triumph; her *Desdemona* was as pathetic and beautiful as ever. This theatre has at length produced its only novelty of the season—Flotow's "Martha," which was performed on Thursday for the first time in this country. Next week we shall give some account of this opera and its reception.

The "Sonnambula" was performed at DRURY LANE, on Monday, with Madame Viardot in the character of *Amina*. There was an immense house, and the audience were enthusiastic in their applause. *Amina* is one of the fair prima donna's best parts. Her acting sparkled with genius, though it was too elaborate, too full of minute points. With less evident pains it would be still more effective. She sang with extraordinary brilliancy, embellishing Bellini's simple cantilena with a profusion of *floriture* of the most original and fanciful kind. She was well supported by Signor Naudin, in the part of *Elcino*; and Signor Manfredi's *Count Rodolfo* was gentlemanlike and pleasant. The Italian Operas at this theatre (we observe from the advertisements) are drawing to a close.

HERR REICHARDT, the celebrated tenor, gave a *matinée* on Monday at the Hanover-square Rooms. He sang a fine aria from Weber's "Euryanthe," two lieder of Mendelssohn and Fesca; and a German song of great merit, "Du bist mir nah," composed by himself, which has just been published, with an English version of the words by Mr. John Oxenford. Mr. Reichardt was assisted by Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Herr Pischek, and M. Lefort; and, in the instrumental department, by Miss Arabella Goddard, Herr Joachim, and Signor Piatti.

SIGNOR BILETTA and SIGNOR SOLIERI—the one an eminent operatic composer, and the other a favourite singer—gave a concert on Monday morning at Willis's Rooms. Several pieces from Signor Biletta's operas, "La Rose de Florence," and "White Magic," were sung with much applause; and Signor Solieri had great success in several solo and concerted vocal pieces.

MR. ALBERT SCHLOSS gave a concert on Monday night last, in the presence of a most discriminating and fashionable auditory. The programme was selected with the utmost care, and contained the names of the following eminent artists:—The Misses Pynce, Madame Bassano, Madame and Mr. Weiss, Messrs. Harrison, Reichardt, Jules Lefort, Herr Pischek; with the Swedish Singers, in their Guy-like costumes; and Piatti, the violoncellist, the brothers Distin, Herren Kuhe and Engel. These alone would have made a glorious programme; but Mr. Schloss was not thus satisfied—he gave us a new flautist, Herr Eben, a Polish artist of the first rank, and a sweet girl, a Mlle. Sophie Humler, who (as the sailor says in "Black-eyed Susan") "plays the fiddle like an angel." She is a protégée of the King of Wurtemberg, and a pupil of Alard, of the Conservatoire of Paris, who should be proud of the success of his charming élève. The conductors were Benedict, Mori, Bergee, and George Loder, who ably assisted the efforts of their compatriots. Madame Lemmens Sherrington at the last moment took the place of Miss Louisa Pynce, who was prevented from attending by a sore throat, and in a new aria by Benedict well sustained her rising reputation.

The season of the MUSICAL UNION terminated on Tuesday, when the director, Mr. Ella, gave his annual *matinée*. The performers were—Rubinstein (piano), Joachim and Goffrie (violins), the two Messrs. Blagrove (tenors), Piatti (violinello), and Pratten (contrabasso). The principal pieces were Mozart's quintet for stringed instruments in D; Hummel's pianoforte quintet in E flat minor; Beethoven's sonata, op. 90, played by Rubinstein; and two solos, one of Beethoven and the other of Paganini, performed by Joachim. Vocal pieces were sung by Mr. Santley and Madame Lemmens Sherrington. St. James's Hall was crowded to the doors with fashionable company.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ST. JAMES'S.—On Friday week Madame Ristori appeared, for the first time in England, in the "Ottavia" of Alfieri. With her national poet the great Italian actress felt herself on her own ground. Her sympathy with the genius of Alfieri is full and fervent. It is thorough-going and earnest. There are no remembrances of a predecessor interfering with the original impression; but the effect is simple, pure, and decided. Alfieri, too, leaves room for the invention of the actress; the austerity of his genius is favourable to this condition. There is always more in the situations than in the dialogues, and the histrionic representative must penetrate beneath the words to the feelings, and furnish the exponents of the latter in the gestures and action. How Ristori rejoices in such opportunities her admirers need not be told. The part of *Ottavia* has almost wholly to be made by the actress. It is a grand tragic picture, and elevates our opinion of the actress, who is now the reigning queen of the severe drama.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Mr. Webster and the Adelphi company appeared on Monday in the play of "Janet Pride," and the comic drama of "Middy Ashore." They are to be succeeded next week by Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams.

STANDARD.—On Saturday the Adelphi company appeared on these boards in "Green Bushes" and "Our French Lady's Maid." The performance was greatly applauded by a crowded house. On Monday Sir William Don made his bow to the audience in this locality, and was favourably received. As a low comedian, though a tall man, he has great merit.

THE ROYAL GARDENS, VAUXHALL, on Monday evening opened their doors to the public, after having been closed for two years. The number of visitors during the evening was very large, amounting about ten o'clock to many thousands. These gardens have been entirely repaired and renovated by the new management, and now present as beautiful an appearance as ever.

MR. PEPPER, the well-known lecturer at the Polytechnic, took a farewell benefit last week, and has given up the lease of the institution. The directors demand an increase of rent to the extent of £365 a year—an augmentation which, he stated, the receipts would not bear.

MR. ARTHUR BROWNE, son of the Vicar of Westbourne, Sussex, and a mate on board H.M.S. *Raccoon*, was accidentally drowned, early last month, in the Bay of Gibraltar.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE racing season, now that the Liverpool Cup has quite lost the prestige of its General Chassé, Inberitor, and Charles XII. days, hangs sadly between Stockbridge and Goodwood, and there is no St. Leger betting to help it. Fitz Roland is such a handful that few care to back him; and there is a report that Sir Joseph has purchased the great two-year-old Merryman, and Eclipse as well. John Scott has brought Incedon—a dark son of Melbourne and Songstress—into the betting; but really the field and favourites are all so weak that any one who has a St. Leger entry might take a try for better or worse this year. Mr. Hobson has, we hear, refused five hundred pounds for North Lincoln's dam, and a thousand from Baron Rothschild for his moiety of the colt. His sire, Pylades, one of the most wretched, leggy creatures ever seen, was sold in Lincoln market for £15, but died before his son came to such honour; and his dam, Cherokee, went into the hands of a Lincolnshire clergyman for £25. The latter had no notion what the mare was, and, finding that she was a bad roadster, and had a sand-crack to boot, he parted with her to Mr. Hobson again for £25, when that gentleman found out her value through North Lincoln's running. The latter is said to have a great trick of jumping a road, and he did so in his race at Epsom, after giving them full warning of his intentions in his exercise gallops. David Jones, once well known as a trainer and jockey, died at Chelsea workhouse last Thursday week. He had been blind for many years, and began his racing life in 1792, as a pupil of Old Chifney, at Newmarket. He was one of the principal witnesses against Dan Dawson, and had been at Waterloo, and all through the Peninsula, in the capacity of groom to a General, but evil times overtook him as soon as his sight went.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday will be occupied by Newmarket July, which the authorities have not yet had the moral courage to compress into two good days. The July Stakes ought to bring out a large field, as, save and excepting Stockham, none of the thirty candidates have shown any form. The Chesterfield Stakes has Bastion and King of Arms in it, the latter a very promising scion of Kingston.

The Four-in-Hand Club had their last meet of the season on Friday, and some eighteen or nineteen drags assembled; Earl Sefton's being among them for the first time. It was brought out in the true Sefton style, bay horses, and dark blue drag picked out with yellow. For work, Mr. Macgennis's, and for show the Hon. W. Craven's, are thought to be the best teams. Earl Shelburne's carriage horses were sold on Monday. One of them, a black, with white legs, made 220 gs., and another 175 gs.

Mr. Rarey's subscribers have been everywhere asking whether the publication of the work by him does not absolve them from all necessity to preserve secrecy any longer. It is not for us to say whether the principles for throwing and handling a horse, &c., are practically the same as those laid down in the book. If they are, they are assuredly absolved at once, or else they are in the ludicrous position of having paid ten guineas, and yet being debarred from practising, except in some secret place, that very system, the rudiments of which others have acquired by laying out a penny in Holywell-street, and getting two woodcuts in as well. Still, supposing the book does contain the whole system, it is half the good to see him do it himself; and it is a sad pity that he does not at once consent to lower his prices, so that gentlemen may send their grooms, with whom seeing (and nothing short) will be believing.

Mr. George Cooke, late of the Craven, has taken the Tiverton hounds, and, comparing great things with small, he moves about as much as Sir Bellingham Graham was wont to do. Things seem very amicably settled in Dorsetshire at last, and we trust that among the different masters of foxhounds Lord Portman may soon be able to make up a pack. Nearly all the drafts have been bespoken, and we hear that Will Goodall's, which is always so especially sought after, is divided equally between Lord Dacre and Mr. Drake. The distemper has seldom been known so sharp among the puppies, some of which have died in eighteen hours, and presented very curious appearances in their backs on dissection. Lord Willoughby is building new kennels in Birdsall Park, and the new ones for the Heythrop will be finished before the season comes in. The old Berkshire kennels have been removed from Tubney to Oakley Park, where Mr. Morell formerly lived. Warwick, one of the very best of the hunters at the sale, has been since sold to the Duke of Beaufort; and Marlborough, by Gaper, who fetched the top price both at Mr. Henley Greaves's and Mr. Morell's sale, has died of lock-jaw in his Surrey owner's hands. Goodricke's Gorse, which was drawn blank five times last season, and was said to have been condemned, is not without its litter this year, and the misfortune is generally attributed to a dog having lived in it for months.

On Monday, Kent, with Caffyn, Jackson, and G. Parr given; play All England, at Lord's; and, on the Thursday, the I Zingari meet the Household Brigade. At Brighton, on Monday, the Gentlemen of Sussex play those of Hants. The latter go to Canterbury on Thursday, to meet the Gentlemen of Kent; and on the same day Surrey meets Kent and Sussex combined for a return match at the Oval. The United has no fixture; but All England plays twenty-two of Holbeck and the neighbourhood on Thursday. Hearne, who so distinguished himself as "a colt" in the match of the two Elevens, made his 77 at Whitehaven; and Captain Bathurst made 92 in the Marylebone match with Rugby, whose captain, Mr. Sandford, fought gallantly, and carried out his bat for 65.

SHIRESBURY SUMMER MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Queen's Plate.—Gunboat, 1. Odd Trick, 2.
Biennial Stakes.—Greenwich Fair, 1. Lifeboat, 2.
Great Cleveland Handicap.—Gunboat, 1. Young Hopeful, 2.
Longner-hall Stakes.—Artist, 1. Joey Grimaldi, 2.
Steward's Cup.—Verona, 1.

WEDNESDAY.

Corporation Plate.—Apollo, 1. Chantress, 2.
Hawkestone Cup.—Wouvernans, 1. Misty Morn, 2.
Shropshire Stakes.—Misty Morn walked over.
Salop Handicap.—Merry Sunshine, 1. Maggie Laudor, 2.

CARLISLE RACES.—TUESDAY.

Corby Castle Stakes.—Meta, 1. Gnateacher, 2.
Grand Stand Handicap.—Trabuco, 1. Breeze, 2.
Cumberland Plate.—Trip the Daisy, 1. Julia, 2.

CRICKET.—County of Surrey against Nottingham: This contest, at the Surrey ground, Kensington-oval, entered on the third day, Saturday, and was ultimately won by Surrey, with nine wickets standing, the brilliant batting of Mr. Miller (who carried out his bat for 67) being deservedly eulogised. Surrey, first innings, 299; second, 103. Nottingham, first innings, 114; second, 104.

I Zingari against the Two Houses of Parliament: This match at Lord's ground, on Saturday, attracted a large and very fashionable company. On the part of I Zingari the "opposition" was very strong, they recording their number as 172, leaving the Parliament in a minority of 77. In the second innings of "the Houses" however, the "tellers" announced an improvement; but, as the contest was only for one day, a defeat was recorded against them in the following manner:—Parliament, first innings, 95; second, 75. I Zingari, 172.

Marylebone Club and Ground v. the University of Cambridge: At Lord's Ground on Friday week this match was resumed from the previous day. The M.C.C. came off victorious in one innings and thirty-seven runs, which the following score will exemplify:—Cambridge: First innings, 182; second innings, 76. M.C.C. and Ground, 295.

The Old Etonians v. the Old Harrovians:—This match was played on Monday. The Harrovians made 185 runs in one innings; the Etonians, with one wicket only to go down at the end of their second innings, had only scored 118; they therefore gave in.

AQUATICS.—Eton and Radley Boat-race: This exciting event took place last Saturday evening, over the Regatta Course at Henley-on-Thames, and was a very fine race throughout, although lacking variety. The rowing was scientific and vigorous in both boats. Radley rowed with most determined game, but the Etonians came in first by three-quarters of their own length.

Lambeth Watermen's Regatta: The thirty-eighth annual regatta at Lambeth, for prizes given by the ladies and gentlemen of St. Mary's parish—an "ears" wager—came off on Monday, and a large concourse assembled to witness it. The grand heat was won easily by Eld and W. Perry.

City, Temple, and Strand Regatta: This old-established regatta for good prizes, subscribed by the inhabitants of the above vicinity, came off on Monday, under the management of George Garratt. It was a double scullers' match, in three heats. In the grand heat A. Hunt and I. Sculthorpe came in first; and R. Tisdale and J. Sculthorpe second.

THE PAPER DUTIES.

We may begin to write the history of the paper duties, for their lingering life cannot be long preserved. They have received from the hands of Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Ingram, Mr. Ayrton, Mr. Bright, and others, blows from which they will never recover. Imposed first in 1712, when the manufacture of paper was in its infancy, and when no conception existed either of the skill subsequently to be developed, or the many uses to which paper was to be put, they have now become so injurious as to be a reproach to the Legislature which retains them even for a single Session. Paper has been well described as "the most subtle of human inventions." It is the product, exclusively, of skill. The natural fertility of the soil, the inherent qualities of iron and wood, have a large share in the productions of the farmer, the founder, and the builder; but rags, which art converts into a substance as yielding as putty, as hard as rock, and as light as a cobweb, possess no qualities indicating paper, and must be removed not to be a nuisance. To impede such an art is to arrest the development of intellect as well as industry. Till the tax was imposed improvements were continually made in the manufacture of paper, though they were chiefly borrowed from France; but few improvements were subsequently made through the greater part of the eighteenth century. The quantity of paper produced in England actually fell from 136,967 reams in 1713 to 43,564 reams in 1747, and the duty declined from £13,743 to £10,940. After 1747 the requirements of society induced an increase, in spite of the complicated and onerous system of duties. In 1781 the old duties were repealed and others levied, according to the value and size of the paper; and from that time the manufacture made a more rapid progress. But, in the sixty-eight years which elapsed between the imposition of the duty and 1811, while the population increased at least 2,000,000, the shipping increased from 261,222 tons to 510,909 tons, the empire in India had been acquired, and the American provinces had grown to be a considerable State, the paper duties had only increased from £13,743 to £17,409, or just £3666 more than in 1713. From 1811 to 1863 there were several changes in the duties, but the amount of the revenue and the quantity of paper brought to charge continually increased. In 1863 the chief duty was fixed at 3d. per lb., and so it continued till 1866, when a duty of 1½d. per lb. was applied uniformly to all kinds of paper. After the duty was reduced the consumption increased rapidly. In this century great improvements—the first idea of which, like the earlier improvements, was borrowed from France—have been made in the manufacture of paper, and the quantity brought to charge in the whole empire increased from 34,431,493 lb. in 1863, to 77,692,282 lb. in 1886, and the duty increased from £394,822 to £790,776, or, in these thirty-three years, the quantity and the duty had nearly doubled. Between 1837, when the lower duty came into operation, and 1857, the quantity increased from 88,950,845 lb. to 191,721,620 lb., and the duty increased from £555,942 to £1,244,142; or, in these twenty years, under the low duty, both the quantity of the paper brought to charge and the amount of duty were more than doubled, confirming, in this instance, the truth lately taught by the whole course of our commercial legislation, that high and complicated duties tend to ruin the national industry. Let us look at the present paper duties by this light.

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue refer exultingly to the great increase in the export of stationery, and regard this as "evidence that our fiscal regulations do not press unduly on the manufacture of paper." We must test the progress of the paper manufacture, therefore, with some corresponding branches of industry not placed under the Excise. Frankly must it be admitted that latterly a great increase has taken place in the quantity of paper consumed and exported; but it must also be recollected that paper is not only consumed for its own usefulness, like a cotton garment, but, like iron, wool, and cotton, from which all duties have been removed, it is the raw material of most important manufactures. On it are printed the millions of newspapers and books issued day after day and year after year. Out of it are made paper-machines, articles and ornaments which are much in request, with other things. For the export of stationery to our colonies, including books and newspapers, England has a natural monopoly. On all these accounts the consumption of paper, for its own sake and as a raw material, ought to be very extensive, and to increase in a compound ratio. Now, between 1850 and 1883 the consumption of paper increased 30 per cent; of cotton-wool, 41 per cent; and of sheep and lambs' wool, 50 per cent. With many circumstances in its favour, the consumption of paper increased 11 per cent less than cotton, and 20 per cent less than wool. We may make another comparison between the quantity of paper produced in the United States—270,000,000 lb.—in 1855, as stated by Mr. Ingram, with a population one-fifth less than ours, and the quantity produced here, 166,000,000 lb., so that we may reckon the production of paper in America, where there is no excise, and where there is no peculiar advantage, at 75 per cent greater, in proportion to population, than in England.

To add a word about the diminished number of paper makers. As ascertained by the number of licences issued, and confining the remark to England and Scotland, as the return for Ireland is not complete, we have the following comparison:—

	Number of licences granted	In 1850.	In 1855.	Decrease.	Increase.
To paper makers	459	371	88		
Auctioneers	3,444	4,021	577		
Brewers	1,537	41,465	39,928		
Tea and coffee dealers	59,893	121,352	61,459		

Thus, while in these other businesses the number of persons engaged has been much increased, in the paper making the number has diminished. The same is the case with maltsters and distillers. They, too, have declined. So did the soap makers; but the manufacture of soap has escaped the excise, and the number of makers has augmented from 157 in 1847 to 180 in 1855. If we include Ireland, and compare the maximum number of paper makers in the year 1827, 781, with the number in 1855, 390, we have a difference of 391, which makes out a much stronger case. In Ireland there were 133 paper makers, there are now 28—a terrible destruction of useful industry by an injudicious tax.

The export of paper has latterly increased very much, or, between 1850 and 1886, 90 per cent; but in the same interval the export of malt has increased from nothing to 241,032 bushels; and the export of spirits from 347,783 gallons to 4,956,150 gallons, or fifteenfold. These articles, too, are excised; but circumstances have lately led to both of them being, by permission, manufactured in bond or in freedom for exportation. In the same interval the exports of apparel, &c., increased 135 per cent, and of machinery nearly 200 per cent. There is another article in the production of which this country has no peculiar advantages, and the sale of which in third markets meets a fierce competition from France, Italy, Spain, and Germany—silks; and the increase of all kinds of silks exported between 1850 and 1886 was 135 per cent. Now, in 1886, the exports of stationery to our own colonies were 160 per cent of the total export of stationery; while the general exports to our colonies were only a little more than thirty per cent of the total exports. But this natural monopoly of the supply of stationery to such a large body of our customers was insufficient to increase our export of stationery equal to our exports of silks, machinery, and apparel. These examples, and we might extend them—prove that, but for our excise restrictions on the production of the raw material of literature, the export of stationery would probably have exceeded the export of silks. For the production of paper we have, in the immense waste of our textile fabrics, as well as in the great use of clothing by the most opulent people of the world, and in our admirable machinery, great facilities. Rags, as well as waste, are here plentifully supplied. Our exports of stationery ought to exceed, proportionately, our exports of any other article; and that they do not is entirely owing to the continuance of the excise duties and restrictions on the production of paper. Their effect was well pointed out by Mr. Ayrton. In 1854 the rise in the price of rags from 12s. to 18s. per cwt. gave a serious check to the production,

and, a fortiori, the continual tax of 12s. 10d. per cwt. (1½d. per lb. and 5 per cent), raising the price even more than this sum, must operate to check the production of paper. When our stationery comes into competition in third markets with stationery not subject to excise, it, in general, can only be sold at a loss; and from several such markets our exporters have been driven.

Our remarks are confined entirely to the general subject, though the late debate was full of curious information of serious injuries inflicted on individual publishers of newspapers and books, showing that their interests and that of the public are identical. They lose a few pounds, the public is obliged to put up with an inferior article, to see general trade curtailed, ingenuity hampered, and the growth of intellect impeded. There is no question whatever but that the bulk of our people are worse educated than the Germans, the Swiss, and the inhabitants of the New England States; that under our institutions a perfectly free press, including newspapers, is the best of all instruments for spreading and improving education; and that, just prior to the imposition of the excise duty on paper, the increase in periodical literature was very rapid. Now we have seen that the production of paper was then three times as great as thirty-four years afterwards, and therefore it is perfectly clear that the imposition of the duties on paper tended to check education, and to keep the people uneducated. All the matters we have set before our readers are facts, or plain deductions from facts, and should be known to the statesmen who impose this tax, which nevertheless they continue. They are like the Commissioners of Inland Revenue we are afraid, who only look at the yield, and think every tax a good one which carries money into the Treasury. From wilfulness or from ignorance—which in its effects is as bad—the best interests of the nation are sacrificed.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE
NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 13' 47" W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOMETER.		WIND.	MOON.	RAIN IN 24 HOURS.
	Barometer Corrected.	Therm. in Shade.	Dew Point.	Fahrenheit.	Minimum.	Maximum.			
June 23	30.285	69.1	59.3	70	55.7	79.1	NE. ENE.	Midn.	0.00
" 24	30.266	64.4	50.3	62	57.2	67.4	NNW. N.	2.00	0.00
" 25	30.262	59.5	45.4	62	53.9	70.2	NW. NW. W.	1.41	0.00
" 26	30.022	63.8	52.5	68	51.4	75.0	W. WSW.	2.45	0.00
" 27	30.072	67.0	58.2	72	54.9	65.2	W. WNW. NW.	2.04	0.00
" 28	30.132	67.7	40.5	56	45.2	70.3	WNW.	1.15	0.00
" 29	30.124	59.4	45.2	61	49.2	68.8	NW. NNW.	1.77	0.00

Before leaving Stoneleigh Abbey, the Queen placed a very magnificent bracelet on the arm of Lady Lisle. Her Majesty also left £150 to be divided amongst the servants of the establishment.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS IN THE CHURCH.—The Rev. K. H. Digby to be Honorary Canon in Norwich Cathedral; Rev. W. Renaud, Curate and Lecturer of St. Thomas, to be Prelate of the Canon of Highworth, in Salisbury Cathedral. *Rectories.* The Rev. H. C. Denson to East Coulston, Dorset; Rev. A. W. Hall to Debenham, Essex; Rev. T. Toft to Newton, with the Curacy of Scott Willoughby, Lincolnshire; Rev. T. H. Tooke to St. Edmund, Salisbury; Rev. A. E. Welby to Holy Trinity, Hulme, Manchester. *Vicarages.* The Rev. W. Belford to Marshfield, Gloucestershire; Rev. J. W. Gandy to Burnham, Essex. *Chaplaincies.* The Rev. E. Strickland to the Marquis of Bath; Rev. W. M. Townsend to Stow Union; Rev. W. Westall to the Earl of Fife. *Perpetual Curacies.* The Rev. J. F. Brindle to Bacup, Manchester; Rev. J. J. Jacob to Horningham, Wilts; Rev. E. P. Trueman to Burecombe, Wilts. *Cures.* The Rev. A. F. Bellwell to Moor Critchell, Dorset; Rev. J. I. Kay to Holy Trinity, Dorchester; Rev. E. A. Lyle to Upper Cumber, diocese of Derry; Rev. N. H. Gachen to Portsmouth; Rev. W. H. Plummer to Griston, Norfolk; Rev. R. W. Whitford to Dinton-cum-Telford Magna, Surrey; Rev. J. J. Stewart to be Assistant Preacher to the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn.

THE REV. ALFRED POOLE, whose name has been so prominently before the public in connection with the alleged scandals in Bulgaria, has lodged an appeal with the Archbishop against the decree of suspension pronounced against him by the Bishop of London. The whole matter will therefore have to be argued before the Court of Arches.

A PAROCHIAL PLEASURE EXCURSION.—On Tuesday morning the Rectory of St. Giles's in the Fields, the Rev. A. W. Thorold, left Waterloo-bridge Steamboat Pier in the *Mitis* steamer, with several hundred poor men and women, for a day's pleasure, by the kind permission of Sir Gilling Farley, Bart., in Belvedere Park, Erit. A band of music accompanied the happy party, and an abundance of amusements and substantial refreshments awaited their arrival at Erit.

On Monday an inquiry was opened at the Greenwich Police-court into the circumstances attending the wreck of the *Peninsular* and *Oriental Steam Navigation Company's* steamer *Ada* on the coast of Caplin on the 16th of last February. It terminated on Tuesday, the decision of the Court being that the Captain had been to blame in neglecting the precaution of heaving the lead.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

ALTHOUGH the sales of Money Stock have been very moderate, most National Securities have ruled inactive since we last wrote, and prices have had a dropping tendency. The present comparative heaviness in the market appears to have arisen chiefly from the unfavourable commercial advices from South America, where some heavy failures have taken place, especially amongst the bill-brokers, and the steady upward movement in the value of money. Some of the jobbers have, therefore, intimated their intention to close their accounts.

The supply of purely commercial paper has increased to some extent, and the applications to the Bank of England have been more numerous than for some time past. In Lombard-street short bills, of a first-class character, have been done at 2½ per cent; consequently, the value of money "out of doors" is now nearly equal to the Bank minimum. Four months' paper is not discounted under 2½ per cent, and six months' under 3½ per cent. This steady advance is a strong proof that the trade and all commerce of the country are still improving; and our impression is, looking to the *bona fide* character of our commercial operations, that money is likely to rule higher as the year progresses, even though the dividend payments will be shortly released.

The movement of bullion has been trifling, both as respects the imports and exports. In silver very little has been passing, and the present pocket for India carries out under £50,000. There has been very little alteration in the Continental exchanges this week; but from Bombay we learn that a decline of one per cent has taken place in them, and that a further fall of one and a half per cent has been reported at Shanghai. The continuance of the decline in the quotations in India will, of course, affect our Money Market to some extent.

The Consol Market was flat on Monday, nevertheless the fluctuations in prices were trifling:—The Reduced Three per Cents marked 95½; New Three per Cents, 96 and 95½; and Consols for Account, 95½. Bank Stock was 220. India Loan Debentures sold at 99½; India Bonds, under 110½, 10s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 20s. to 30s. prem.; and the Bank's 101. On Tuesday the transactions were trifling, as follows:—Bank Stock, 221½; Reduced Three per Cents, 95½; New Three per Cents, 95½; Consols, for Account, 95½; India Loan Debentures, 99½; India Bonds, 101; India Bonds, 10s. and Exchequer Bills, 20s. to 30s. prem. Very little change took place in prices on Wednesday, and the market ruled dull. Consols for Account were 95½; the New Three per Cents, 95½; the Reduced, 95½; Exchequer Bills were, March, 31s. to 35s.; June, 17s. to 21s. prem. Bank Stock, 221½.

In the Foreign House the operations have been somewhat restricted, yet we have very few changes to notice in the quotations:—Brazilian Five per Cents have realised 102½; and the Scrip, 1½ discount; Buenos Ayres Six per Cent Deferred have marked 109; Chilean Six per Cents, 105½; Danish Five per Cents, 103; Mexican Three per Cents, 20; Spanish Three per Cents, 45; Ditto, New Deferred, 27½; Ditto, Passive, 73; Ditto, Commenced Certificate of Coupon, 51; Turkish Six per Cents, 95½; Turkish Four per Cents, 104½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 67; and Dutch Four per Cents, 99.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been steady in price; but the declines in them have been somewhat restricted. Agna and United Service, 64; Australasia, 81½; City, 63½; London Chartered of Australia, 181; London Joint Stock, 30½; London and Westminster, 45½; New South Wales, 45; Union of Australia, 50½; Union of London, 24½; and Provincial of Ireland, 64.

Most Miscellaneous Securities have ruled flat. Canada Company's Bonds have sold at 116½; London General Omnibus, 54; London Dock, 104; Atlantic Telegraph, £1000 paid, 500; Australian Agricultural, 23½; Colonial Palace, 11; Electric Telegraph, 108; European and American Steam, 31;

London Discount, 3½; National Discount, 4½; Peel River Land and Mine, 11½; and Van Diemen's Land, 11½.

The Railway Share market has continued heavy, and prices have again ruled lower. The account has passed off tolerably well, and the "calls" for "continuation" have been about 5 per cent. The "calls" for this present month are heavy—viz., £1,121,763—making a total called for this year £8,616,708. The following are the official closing quotations on Wednesday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 51; Caledonian, 74; Chester and Holyhead, 33; Eastern Counties, 59½; East Lancashire, 89; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 103; Great Western, 50½; Lancaster and Carlisle, Thirds, 11½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 88½; London and Blackwall, 0; London and North Western, 89½; Ditto, Eighth, 84; London and South Western, 92; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 36½; Midland, 90½; North British, 47½; North-Eastern, 44½; North Staffordshire, 11½; Scottish Central, 102½; Scottish North-Eastern, Aberdeen Stock, 26; South-Eastern, 68.

SHARES AT FIXED RENTALS.—London and Greenwich, 12½; Ditto, Preference, 23½; Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth, 13½; South Staffordshire, 10.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Chester and Holyhead Five per Cent, 98; 14 Stern Counties, No. 2, 114; Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 104; Great Western Four per Cent, 85; Ditto, Five per Cent, 101; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 123; Ditto, 25, 51; North-Eastern, 104½; 54½; South Wales, 101½.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—Buffalo, Brantford, and Goderich, June 1, 1874, 75; East Indian, 104½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 40; Ditto, Six per Cent Debenture, 73; Great Western of Canada, 103; Ditto, New, 81.

FOREIGN.—Great Luxembourg, 74; Northern of France, 37½; Sambre and Meuse Preference, 87.

Mining Shares continue inactive. Wheel Edward have been done at 4½; Wheel Mary Ann, 44½; Bon Accord Copper, 1; Fortuna, 21; and Linares, 31.

Thursday Afternoon.

Very little has been passing in Home Stocks to-day, and prices have ruled a shade lower. The Three per Cents for the Opening have marked 95½; the Reduced and the New Three per Cents, 95½. India Bonds, 15s. to 20s.; and Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 32s. premium. In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares very few purchases have been made.

THE MARKETS.

CORN.—FACON, June 28.—To-day's market was very much supplied with English wheat—the condition of which was good—and the demand for all kinds ruled steady, at an advance in the quotations realised on Monday last of from 1s. to 2s. per quarter. Although the show of foreign wheat was extensive, there was an improved feeling in the transactions, and previous rates were well supported. We had a moderate inquiry for barley, at last week's currency; but it was ruled heavy, at barely late rates. Very large quantities of oats were on offer; nevertheless, a good business was transacted in them, at a slight reduction in value. Beans were 1s. to 2s. per quarter dearer; and the value of peas and flour was finally supported.

June 29.—Wheat sold to a moderate extent, at Monday's improvement in the quotations. Barley and oats were a slow inquiry; but all other articles ruled firm in price.

WHEAT.—Wheat, Best and Kent, red, 38s. to 44s.; ditto, white, 41s. to 43s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 38s. to 43s.; ditto, white, 41s. to 43s.; grinding barley, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; duffing ditto, 2s. to 3s.; mulling ditto, — to —; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 5s. to 6s.; brown ditto, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; Kingston and Ware, 5s. to 6s.; Chevalier, 6s. to 6s. 6d.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; potato ditto, 2s. to 3s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; ditto, white, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; tick beans, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; grey peas, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; mangel, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; 4s. to 4s. 6d.; bolton, 4s. to 4s. 6d. per quarter. Townsley flour, 3s. to 4s.; town flour, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; country marks, 2s. to 3s.; French, 3s. to 3s. 6d. per 25 lb. Ainer flour, 3s. to 3s. 6d. per barrel.

SEEDS.—Red clover seed is in improved request, and rather dearer. Canary supports the late improvement; but all other seeds are a slow sale, on former terms. In cases very little is doing.

LINSEED.—English crushing, 5s. to 5s. 6d.; Calcutta, 5s. to 5s. 6d.; hempseed, 4s. to 4s. 6d. per quarter; coriander, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 1s. to 1s. 6d.; white, 1s. to 1s. 6d.; tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. per bushel; langish rapeseed, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per quarter; time d. cakes, English, 45s. to 45s. 6d.; ditto, foreign, 48s. to 48s. 6d.; rape cakes, 43s. to 43s. 6d. per ton. Canary, 8s. to 10s. per quarter; red clover, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; white ditto, 4s. to 4s. 6d. per cwt.

WHEAT.—The prices of wheat flour in the metropolis are from 6½d. to 7d.; of household ditto, 6d. to 6½d. per four-pound loaf.

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.—Wheat, 43s.; barley, 31s. 1d.; oats, 25s. 10½; rye, 3s. 1s.; beans, 4s. 2d.; peas, 4s. 2d.

THE LONDON AVERAGES.—Wheat, 4s. 3d.; barley, 3s. 11d.; oats, 2s. 3d.; rye, 3s. 8d.; beans, 4s. 2d.; peas, 4s. 2d.

ENGLISH WHEAT.—Last week.—Wheat, 67½s.; barley, 93s.; oats, 35½d.; rye, 57s.; beans, 170s.; peas, 163s. per quarter.

TEA.—The amount of business doing in our market is rather limited, and prices are a shade lower than last week. Common sundry goods, 10d.

FIGURES.—Good and fine grocery raw sugars have changed hands somewhat steadily, at last week's currency; but low and middling grades have given way 1d. to 1½d. per cwt. Floating cargoes of sugar are mostly held on former terms. Refined goods move off slowly, at 5½s. per cwt. for brown lump.

COFFEE.—Plantation kinds have changed hands slowly, at 1s. per cwt. low money. Other qualities of coffee are a slow inquiry. A few parcels of good old, native Ceylon have found buyers at 4s. per cwt.

WHEAT.—We have very little change to notice in the value of this article—the stock of which is 86,000 tons—and the transactions are chiefly confined to retail prices.

PROVISIONS.—Good and fine qualities of butter sell steadily, at full quotations; but stale parcels are much neglected. In bacon, very little is doing, at 1s. to 1s. 6d. per lb. as money. Hams are firm; but other provisions rule heavy.

TALLOW.—The demand is very inactive, and N.Y.C. on the spot, is freely offered at 52s. per cwt. The quotation for the last three months is 6s. 3d. per cwt.

GLASS.—Landed oil continues in fair request, at 3s. 6d. per cwt. Most other oils rule about stationary. Spirits of turpentine, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt.

SPIRITS.—There is only a limited inquiry for rum, at barely stationary prices. Proof Lecwau, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d.; Proof East India, 1s. 9d. per gallon. Brandy is very dull, and lower to purchase. In grain spirit very little is doing.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKY.—Irish, 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.; Scotch, 23s. 6d. to 24s. 6d.; and straw, 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. per load.

CATTLE.—Stewart's, 16s. 6d.; Lambton, 14s. 2d.; Hutton, 16s. 6d.; Tees, 16s. 6d. Other qualities, 12s. to 14s. 6d. per ton.

HOES.—Owing to the favourable accounts at hand from the plantations our market is heavy, and prices are barely supported.

WHEAT.—English wheat is in fair request, at full quotations. In foreign and colonial qualities very little is doing, at late rates.

POTATOES.—New potatoes are in moderate supply and steady request, at from 6s. to 10s. per cwt.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET (Thursday).—Our market today was very well supplied with beasts, in which a fair average business was transacted, at Monday's currency. The show of sheep was good, but the general quality was inferior. Most of the lots were a slow inquiry, and in some instances, the quotations gave way 2d. per lb. In the supply of which was on the increase—were dull, and 2d. per lb. lower than on Monday.

There was a large supply of calves in the market, and the trade ruled rather heavy, at largely stationary prices. Pigs and mutton were in improved request on former terms.

1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. to 1s. 12d.; prime large oxen, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.; prime cows, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 4d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 4d.; prime mutton, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; large hog, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; small hogs, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; lambs, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; a killing calf, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 4d.; and quarter-old pigs, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. Total supply: Cattle, 1102; cows, 151; sheep and lambs, 1260; calves, 892; pigs, 430. Foreign: beasts, 112; sheep and lambs, 60; calves, 336.

CRABAPPLES AND LIMEAPPLES.—Each kind of meat has met a dull inquiry, as follows:—

Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s.; mutton, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; lamb, 5s. 4d. to 6s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., by the carcass.

ROBERT HERRICK.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25.

BANKRUPTCY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

J. H. NORRIS, Birmingham, paper dealer.—R. TREDESNICK, Gresham House, Old Broad street, sharebroker.

BANKRUPT.

G. SMITH, the Pantelonean, Queen's Road, Brighton, cabinet-maker.—T. J. PATTERSON, Bristol, tailmaker.—G. H. KILLEY, Upper North street, Bethnal Green, dealer in machinery and iron.—J. MILLER, Richmond, Surrey, grocer.—J. LUNT, Birmingham, v. tailor.—R. ATKINSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, hosier.—J. S. HUTCHINGS, Dorchester, coach-builder.—J. SHEPPARD, Spread Eagle, Hotel, Wandsworth, Surrey, licensed victualler.—W. FIAW, Lincoln, bookseller.—C. AYTON, Attleborough, Norfolk, builder.—J. TONKS, Birmingham, printer.

SCOTCH REQUESTIONS.

R. KAY, Ballinrie Cottage, Markinch, deceased, woodsmen.—T. IRVING, Nether Urquhart, Fife, deceased.—W. MUNRO, Haugh of Wardwell, Banffshire, farmer.—G. HOWATT, Woodend of Auchingrill, Banffshire, farmer.—J. GRAY, Jun., Glasgow, merchant.—V. J. ASSOLARI, Glasgow, professor of modern languages.—R. KAY and SON, Markinch, woodsmen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23.

WINE OFFICE, JUNE 23.

6th Dragoon Guards: Major-General A. K. C. Kennedy, G.C.B. to be Colonel. Royal Artillery: Second Captain and brevet Major G. C. Henry to be Captain; Lieut. T. Malton, C. E. B. to be Major; J. Clarke, H. Bruce, T. W. W. Smythe, G. M. Marney, G. H. P. A. R. Dunn to be Major; J. Clarke, H. Bruce, T. W. W. Smythe, G. M. Marney, C. J. Clark, R. C. Price, to be Captains; J. Fletcher, L. C. A. G. A. L. de Beaufort, P. Drishire, A. E. Bykert, to be Lieutenants; Cornet C. McD. Mooney, J. G. Rido, H. E. Davidson, to be Ensigns.

ADMIRALTY, JUNE 25.

Admiral of the Red Sir J. W. E. R. to be Admiral of the Fleet; Admiral of the White Sir W. E. R. to be Admiral of the Red; Admiral of the Blue Sir W. E. R. to be Admiral of the White; Admiral of the Yellow Sir W. E. R. to be Admiral of the Blue; Admiral of the Green Sir W. E. R. to be Admiral of the Yellow; Admiral of the Purple Sir W



MEDAL COMMEMORATIVE OF THE OPENING OF ASTON PARK AND HALL BY HER MAJESTY.

loyalty to your Majesty's throne and person, and humbly acknowledge the great honour conferred upon us, and those whom we represent, by your Majesty's auspicious presence to inaugurate Aston Hall and Park.

"We rejoice in the happy experience that your Majesty's reign has been pre-eminently distinguished by the disinterested, assiduous, and successful efforts that have been directed to the improvement of the moral, intellectual, and social condition of the working classes;

and that this noble cause has ever received from your Majesty the warmest sympathy and encouragement.

"In addition to the historical interest and kingly reminiscences of Aston Hall, and the picturesque features of its architecture, which will at once be appreciated by your Majesty and your Royal Consort, we venture to bespeak your Majesty's kind interest in the peculiar circumstances under which the park and hall have been purchased.

"In some towns in your Majesty's dominions public parks have wisely been provided by wealthy Corporations; in others by the munificence of philanthropic citizens. Here, also, we are indebted to private liberality for two places of recreation for the people; but to Birmingham alone has it been given to secure by her own exertions an ancient park for the physical relaxation—an ancient hall for the mental cultivation—of her variously-employed and laborious population.

"Your Majesty will, we believe, be gratified to learn that Aston Hall and Park have been acquired for the most part by the industry and economy of the people themselves. Of the money required for this purpose a very large proportion has been subscribed by the working classes, a circumstance which we venture to hope will not be without interest and satisfaction to your Majesty.

"It is with feelings of pleasure and gratitude that the interim managers record that, although Birmingham is not distinguished for the individual wealth of its citizens, their undertaking has, from the first, been greatly indebted to those members of the richer classes who are happily always ready to aid in every good and noble work; but chiefest among the generous recognition of the importance of this undertaking they place the condescension of your Majesty in thus honouring the inauguration with your most gracious presence.

"The interim managers would also express their hope that the preservation of Aston Hall and Park, by the efforts of the artisans of Birmingham, may not be without influence as an example and encouragement to those of other towns.



MEDAL COMMEMORATIVE OF THE OPENING OF ASTON PARK AND HALL BY HER MAJESTY.

"That Almighty God may watch over and protect your most gracious Majesty, and your Majesty's Royal Consort; that He may bless your Majesty's auspicious reign; that peace, piety, and prosperity may ever possess our land; that education and order may concurrently increase and support each other; and that your Majesty's Royal children and children's children may ever live, as your Majesty lives, in the hearts of the people, is the earnest prayer of your Majesty's devoted and obedient servants."



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.—THE DEPARTURE FROM WARWICK CASTLE.

As the chief sentences were read, her Majesty gracefully bowed her acquiescence, and, having had the address handed to her, she delivered it to Mr. Secretary Walpole, and read the following reply:—

"I sincerely thank you for your loyal assurances of devoted attachment to my throne and person.

"The improvement of the moral, intellectual, and social condition

of the closing ceremony of the day—the inauguration of the hall and park.

DEPARTURE OF HER MAJESTY FROM WARWICK CASTLE.

At half-past four o'clock her Majesty took her departure from Warwick Castle, expressing the pleasure she had experienced in visiting the castle and the ancient town, of which it was the chief attraction. The Royal cortège took the road through the park, and emerged at West-street, where her Majesty was received with hearty acclamations by the inhabitants assembled in the neighbourhood. Passing under a triumphal arch, the procession went along High-street, Jury-street, and Smith-street, all of which were gaily decorated, and at Cotton-end passed beneath another triumphal arch of large dimensions, noble in appearance, and profusely decorated. A few minutes sufficed to bring the Royal party to the Great Western Railway station, where a guard of honour, consisting of a hundred men of the 22nd Regiment of Foot, commanded by Sir G. Robinson, was stationed, and who saluted her Majesty on her approach.

MEDAL COMMEMORATIVE OF THE INAUGURATION OF ASTON HALL AND PARK.

Whilst her Majesty was at Aston Hall a gold medal was presented to her, of which the accompanying Engraving is a faithful representation. The reverse contains a view of Aston Hall, cut with much skill, care, and delicacy of elaboration, with inscriptions recording the dates of the commencement and completion of the building, and its purchase by the people of Birmingham. In the centre of the obverse is a profile of the Queen, neatly modelled, and surrounded by a wreath composed of the rose, the shamrock, and the thistle, intertwined with oak leaves and other national emblems, displaying great delicacy of manipulation. To these are added inscriptions setting forth the date and occasion of the Royal visit to the town. This work of art was executed by Mr. Joseph Moore. The medal presented to her Majesty was a very beautiful specimen, and her Majesty accepted it with marked pleasure.

COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL

OF THE MARRIAGE OF THE KING OF PORTUGAL WITH THE PRINCESS STEPHANIE

M. LEOPOLD WIENER, the Master of the Mint at Brussels, has, by command of Dom Pedro V. of Portugal, struck a medal, here represented, to commemorate the marriage of his Majesty with the Princess

Stephanie of Hohenzollern. The portraits of the King and Queen on the obverse are excellent likenesses of their Majesties. On the reverse the Princess is seen conducted by Hymen to the shores of Portugal, the vessel being directed by Cupid, bearing a shield with the arms of Braganza and of Hohenzollern. The King, who awaits the approach of his fair fiancée, offers her with one hand his crown, and with the other hand points to the chair of state, from which he



MEDAL COMMEMORATIVE OF THE MARRIAGE OF THE KING OF PORTUGAL WITH THE PRINCESS STEPHANIE.

of my people will always command my earnest attention; and, in opening the Hall and Park to-day, I rejoice to have another opportunity of promoting their comfort and innocent recreation."

Several presentations then took place, followed by the crowning and



MEDAL COMMEMORATIVE OF THE MARRIAGE OF THE KING OF PORTUGAL WITH THE PRINCESS STEPHANIE.

has just risen, signifying by the gesture his desire that she should share his throne and crown. This allegorical design is charmingly executed, and tells its tale much more clearly than allegories generally do.



"THE BEST IN THE MARKET—A SHOP-DOOR IN ROME."—PAINTED BY MRS. E. MURRAY.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF FEMALE ARTISTS.

MRS. ELIZABETH MURRAY, of Teneriffe, is one of the leading champions of the female artists, and nobly does she sustain their claim to consideration in the field of graphic art. The compositions are as remarkable for freshness of invention as for successful execution—the one suggesting pleasing poetry and pleasing subjects, the other vigorous and true, full of grace in the contours, and healthy in expression and colour. In the present Exhibition, just closed or closing, the boy's head in the little picture entitled "The Dawn of Day" is a

charming study; so also is that of the "Spanish Girl at Prayer." A devotional character marks both these productions, which we recognise at once to be sincere.

In "The Best in the Market," we have a simple genre subject, so excellent, however, in its way that it almost seems to be put forth as a challenge to the masculine water-colourist to produce anything better of the kind. The scene is a fruit-seller's shop in Rome; the good woman, whose face is rather pretty,

and beaming with content and honest pride, is offering her stock—"the best in the market." And, certainly, such apples could not well be excelled—so blooming in colour, so round, so well-shaped, their skin so soft, yet so elastic, that they almost make one's mouth water to look at them. Every part of the picture is painted with a firm and delicate pencil, and with a richness and solidity of colour which we do not often see surpassed in the medium (water colours) employed.

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President—The Right Hon. the Earl of DARTMOUTH.

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